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SARGE STEEL
PRIVATE DETECTIVE
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ROUGH, TOUGH, SARGE STEEL... THE ONLY MAN WHO COULD STOP KAPITAN VON WESS FROM CONQUERING THE WORLD!
file #102
Case of the "MAN WHO BLACKMAILED THE WORLD"
VON WESS
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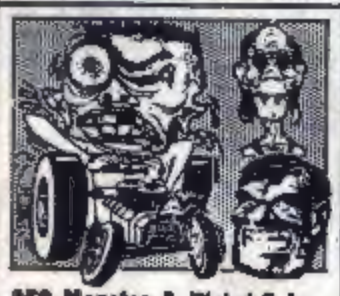

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CHARLTON COMICS GIVE YOU MORE!

SARGE STEEL

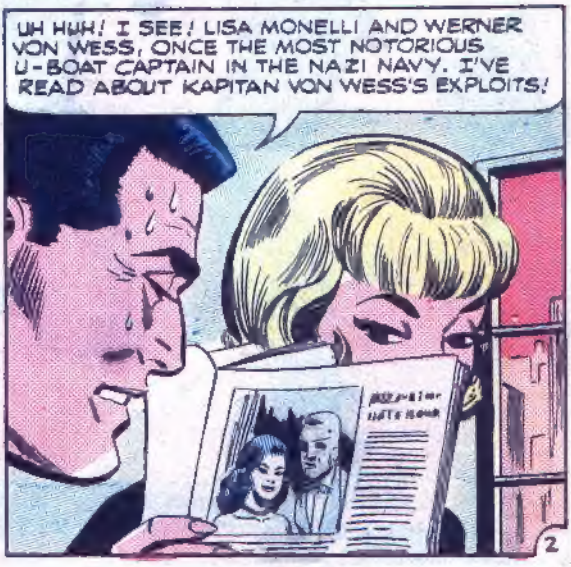
PRIVATE DETECTIVE

File #102
Case of the "MAN WHO BLACKMAILED THE WORLD"

WHEN I MET LISA MONELLI IN A GREAT MUSEUM IN ROME, I THOUGHT SURELY THIS WAS A BEAUTY WHO COULD'VE SAT FOR ONE OF BOTTICELLI'S MASTERPIECES... OR POSED FOR MICHELANGELO... AND IT SEEMED AS THOUGH HALF THE MILLIONAIRES IN THE WORLD AGREED WITH ME... FOR LISA, IN THE EXCLUSIVE CONFINES OF THE ESTABLISHMENTS OF LUXACO, HAD HAD AT LEAST TWO OF THE RICHEST MEN IN THE WORLD SQUIRING HER EVERYWHERE! BUT SHE WAS EX-NAZI KAPITAN WERNER VON WESS'S PARTNER IN THE GREATEST CRIME EVER ATTEMPTED BY MAN... AND I HAD ONLY A SPLIT SECOND OF TIME LEFT TO ADMIRE HER BEAUTY BEFORE THE PISTOL IN HER LOVELY HAND ENDED IT ALL.

SARGE STEEL — Vol. 1, No. 2, Feb., 1965, published 4 times yearly in June, Aug., Oct. and Dec. by Charlton Comics Grp. Derby Conn. Application to mail at Second Class postage rate pending at the Post Office at Derby, Conn.

MY SECRETARY, BESS, AN INCURABLE ROMANTICIST, STARTED HER DAY BY BRINGING ME AN ISSUE OF A CHI-CHI MAGAZINE SHE ALWAYS READ...


UH HUH! I SEE! LISA MONELLI AND WERNER VON WESS, ONCE THE MOST NOTORIOUS U-BOAT CAPTAIN IN THE NAZI NAVY. I'VE READ ABOUT KAPITAN VON WESS'S EXPLOITS!

HE'S BAD, BUT THE LADY... SUCH CHARM! SUCH CHARACTER! I MET BOTH LAST NIGHT IN CAFE MONDE... AND I HAVE AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE NAZI AND HIS LOVELY COMPANION IN JUST UNDER 30 MINUTES!
DAY
I'D SUGGESTED OUR SECOND MEETING AT A SIDEWALK CAFE JUST OFF CENTRAL PARK...
WERNER, HE IS HERE! I ASSURED HIM YOU WOULD NOT KEEP US WAITING, MR. STEEL!
GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, MR. VON WESS. I...
YOU WILL ADDRESS ME AS KAPITAN, MR. STEEL! AND THIS MEETING WAS SUGGESTED FOR PURELY BUSINESS REASONS, MR. STEEL! PLEASE SIT DOWN!
I'LL MAKE A NOTE TO SHAKE A LITTLE WHEN I GET HOME, MISS MONELLI! YOUR NAUTICAL FRIEND FRIGHTENS ME TERRIBLY!
YOU RASCAL! WERNER, INFORM MR. STEEL WHAT HE CAN EXPECT IF YOU ARE NOT TAKEN SERIOUSLY... AND OUR DEMANDS ARE NOT MET!
IN THIS BRIEFCASE ARE SOME INTERESTING DOCUMENTS! DECODED MESSAGES FROM YOUR SUBMARINE ADMIRALS CONCERNING THE DISAPPEARANCE OF A POLARIS-CARRYING NUCLEAR SUBMARINE. NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS OF THE DISAPPEARANCES OF NAVAL OFFICERS, AND TECHNICIANS IN ENGLAND AND THIS COUNTRY!
3

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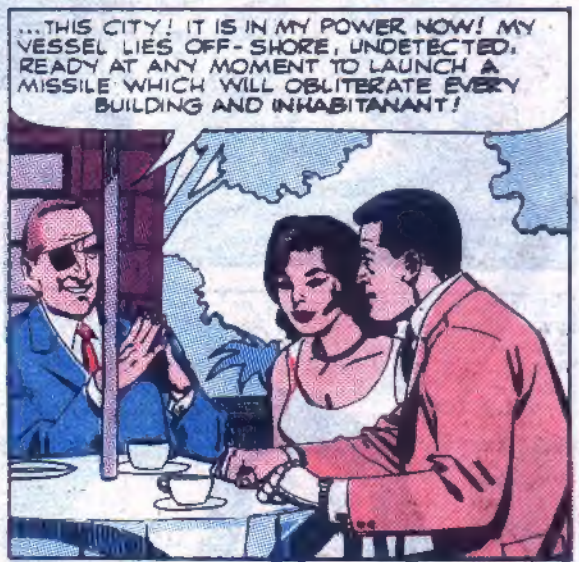
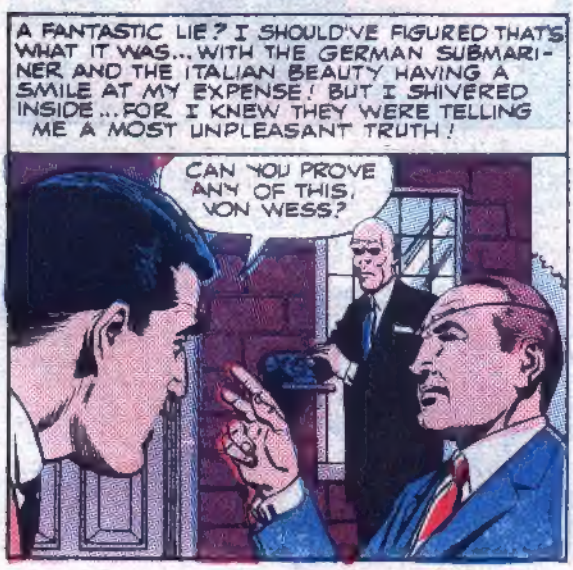
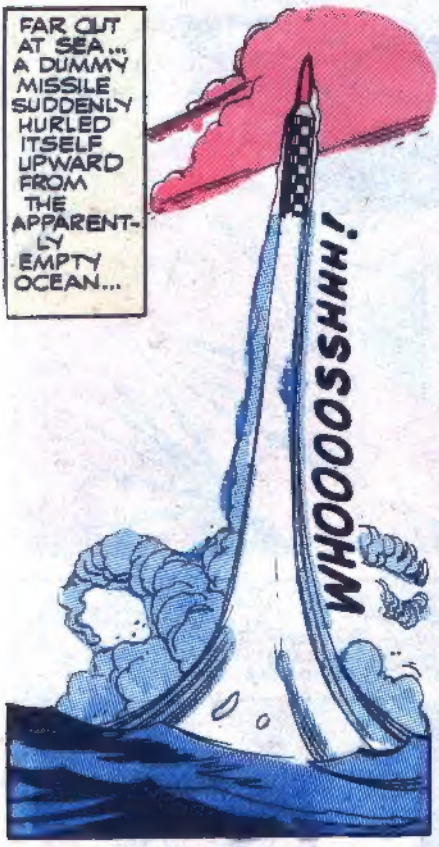
THE GREAT POWERS ARE RIGHT NOW ACCUSING EACH OTHER OF GROSS CARELESSNESS AND CRIMINAL IRRESPONSIBILITY IN DETONATING ATOMIC BOMBS OVER INHABITED AREAS IN GREENLAND AND MELVILLE ISLAND. THE FOOLS STILL DO NOT CORRELATE THE DISAPPEARANCE OF YOUR SUBMARINE WITH THESE ATOMIC EXPLOSIONS!
HOLD ON! YOU MEAN KAPITAN VON WESS HAS...??

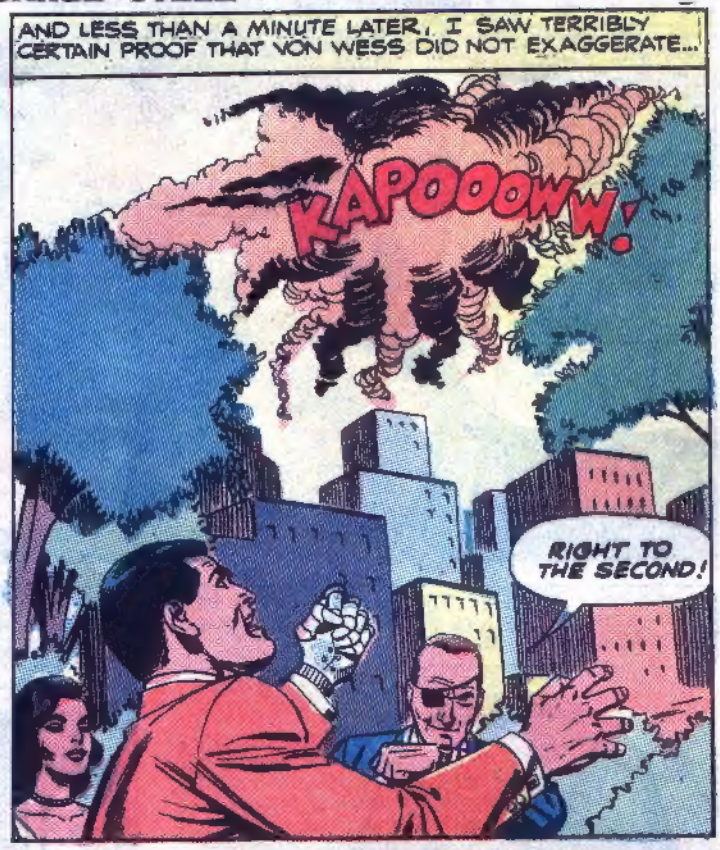
EXACTLY! I NOW COMMAND THAT MISSILE SUBMARINE! I HAVE FOURTEEN POLARIS MISSILES LEFT! I OFFER YOU...


...THIS CITY! IT IS IN MY POWER NOW! MY VESSEL LIES OFF-SHORE, UNDETECTED, READY AT ANY MOMENT TO LAUNCH A MISSILE WHICH WILL OBLITERATE EVERY BUILDING AND INHABITANANT!

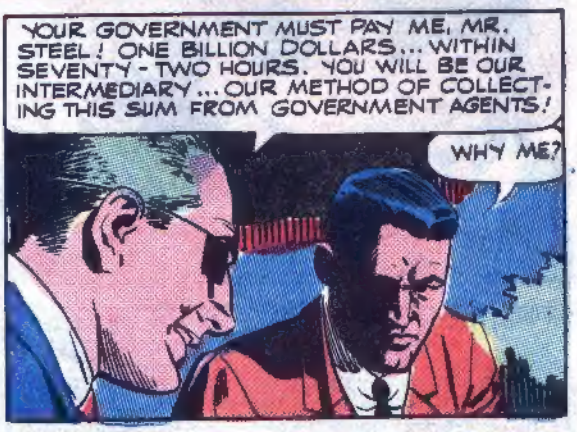

A FANTASTIC LIE? I SHOULD'VE FIGURED THAT'S WHAT IT WAS...WITH THE GERMAN SUBMARINER AND THE ITALIAN BEAUTY HAVING A SMILE AT MY EXPENSE! BUT I SHIVERED INSIDE...FOR I KNEW THEY WERE TELLING ME A MOST UNPLEASANT TRUTH!
CAN YOU PROVE ANY OF THIS, VON WESS?

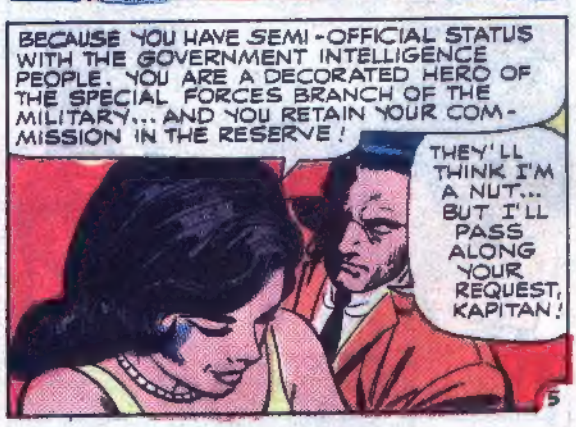
I AM IN COMMUNICATION WITH MY EXECUTIVE OFFICER NOW!


FAR OUT AT SEA... A DUMMY MISSILE SUDDENLY HURLED ITSELF UPWARD FROM THE APPARENTLY EMPTY OCEAN...
WHOOOOSSHHH!


AND LESS THAN A MINUTE LATER, I SAW TERRIBLY CERTAIN PROOF THAT VON WESS DID NOT EXAGGERATE...
KAPOOOWW!
RIGHT TO THE SECOND!

YOU SAW IT? THAT WAS A POLARIS MISSILE WITH A DUMMY WARHEAD! THE NEXT ONE WILL BE A NUCLEAR DEVICE, MR. STEEL!
I'M CONVINCED DEAR LADY! HOW DO I FIT INTO YOUR PLANS?


YOUR GOVERNMENT MUST PAY ME, MR. STEEL! ONE BILLION DOLLARS... WITHIN SEVENTY-TWO HOURS. YOU WILL BE OUR INTERMEDIARY... OUR METHOD OF COLLECTING THIS SUM FROM GOVERNMENT AGENTS!
WHY ME?


BECAUSE YOU HAVE SEMI-OFFICIAL STATUS WITH THE GOVERNMENT INTELLIGENCE PEOPLE. YOU ARE A DECORATED HERO OF THE SPECIAL FORCES BRANCH OF THE MILITARY... AND YOU RETAIN YOUR COMMISSION IN THE RESERVE!
THEY'LL THINK I'M A NUT... BUT I'LL PASS ALONG YOUR REQUEST, KAPITAN!

I WAS BURNING. I WANTED TO SMASH THE NAZI RIGHT IN THE MOUTH AND HAVE HIM SPITTING TEETH FROM 5th AVENUE TO COLUMBUS CIRCLE. INSTEAD, I GOT UP, NODDED TO THE GIRL, AND HEADED FOR MY JAG. ENROUTE, I HAD TO PASS THE CREEP WHO'D BEEN HOLDING A GUN ON ME THROUGH-OUT MY PARLEY WITH KAPITAN VON WESS! HIM, I COULD HIT...

BRAVO, MR. STEEL! WELL DONE!

I TELE-PHONED A CERTAIN OFFICE IN NEW YORK AND THEY CONNECTED ME WITH WASHING-TON! AN ADMIRAL, NO LESS, SPOKE WITH ME...

...PLANE FROM FLOYD BENNET FIELD. WE'LL HAVE YOU BRIEFED AT NEW LONDON ABOARD A NUCLEAR SUBMARINE!

FORTY MINUTES LATER...

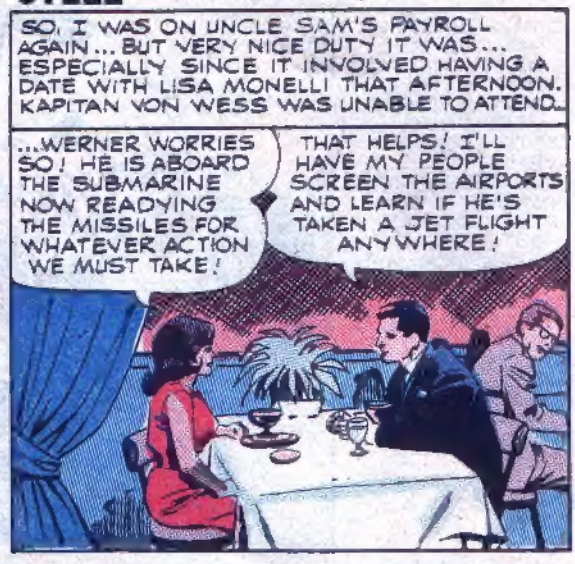
YOU'VE GOT AN ESCORT WAITING AT THE FIELD, CAPTAIN STEEL!

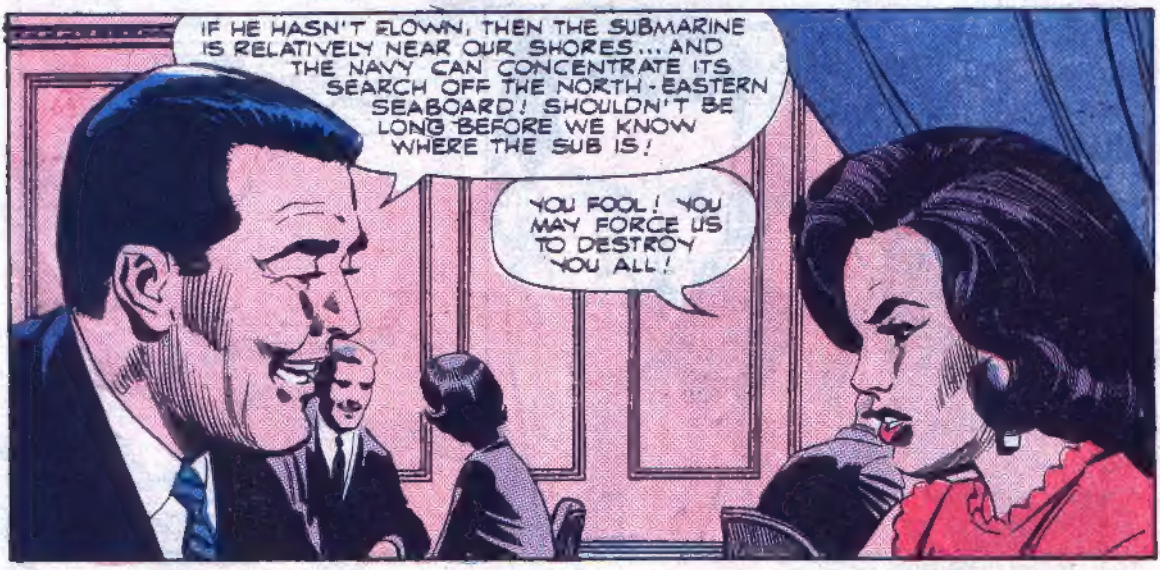
NAVY

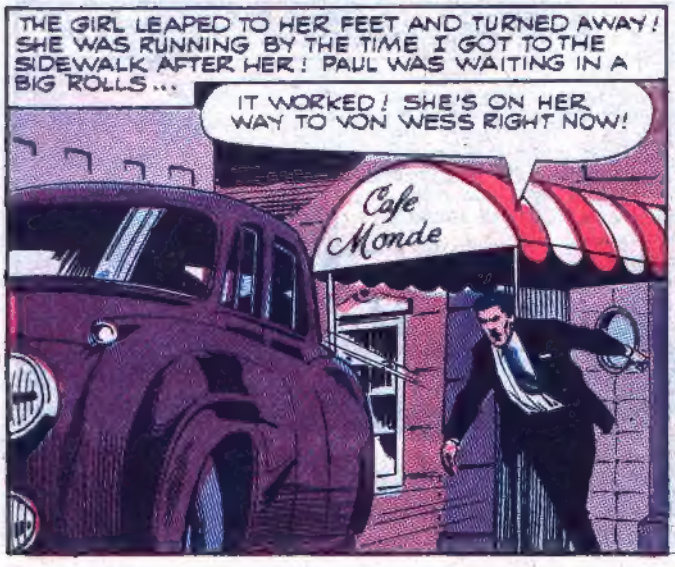
AND AT THE GROTON SUBMARINE BASE, I WAS INTRO-DUCED TO THE LETHAL EFFICIENCY OF THE NUCLEAR SUBMARINE...

I ADMIT TO YOU, CAPTAIN STEEL, THAT ONE OF OUR POLARIS-CARRYING NUCLEAR-POWERED SUB-MARINES WAS PIRATED JUST NORTH OF SCOTLAND WHILE ON HER WAY TO BEGIN A ROUTINE PATROL!

WE MUST LOCATE AND RE-POSSESS THIS VESSEL. WHILE IT IS IN THE HANDS OF THIS NAZI MADMAN, THE WORLD IS IN GREAT DANGER! VON WESS MIGHT EASILY TRIGGER A NUCLEAR WAR BETWEEN OUR NATION AND RUSSIA! GO BACK AND SEE THESE PEOPLE AND LEARN WHAT YOU CAN!
VERY WELL, ADMIRAL!

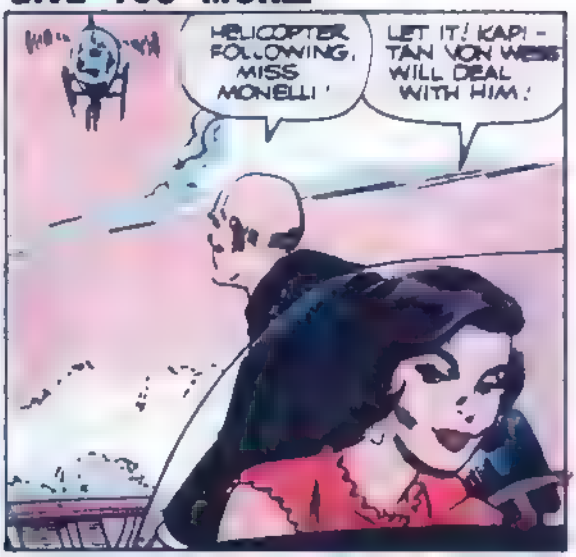

SO, I WAS ON UNCLE SAM'S PAYROLL AGAIN... BUT VERY NICE DUTY IT WAS... ESPECIALLY SINCE IT INVOLVED HAVING A DATE WITH LISA MONELLI THAT AFTERNOON. KAPITAN VON WESS WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND.
...WERNER WORRIES SO! HE IS ABOARD THE SUBMARINE NOW READYING THE MISSILES FOR WHATEVER ACTION WE MUST TAKE!
THAT HELPS! I'LL HAVE MY PEOPLE SCREEN THE AIRPORTS AND LEARN IF HE'S TAKEN A JET FLIGHT ANYWHERE!

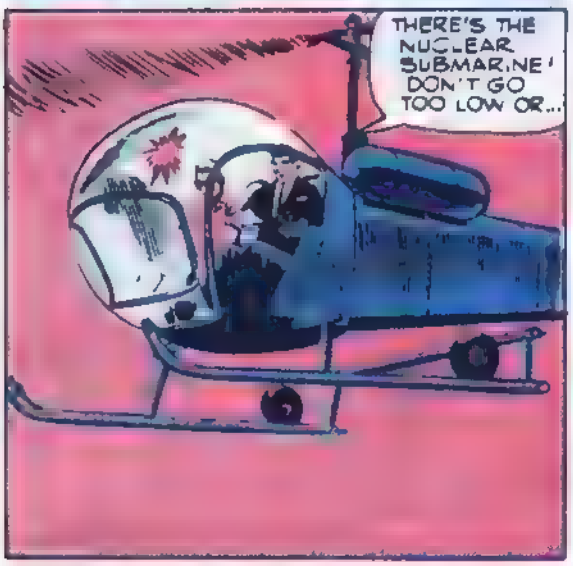

IF HE HASN'T FLOWN, THEN THE SUBMARINE IS RELATIVELY NEAR OUR SHORES... AND THE NAVY CAN CONCENTRATE ITS SEARCH OFF THE NORTH-EASTERN SEABOARD! SHOULDN'T BE LONG BEFORE WE KNOW WHERE THE SUB IS!
YOU FOOL! YOU MAY FORCE US TO DESTROY YOU ALL!

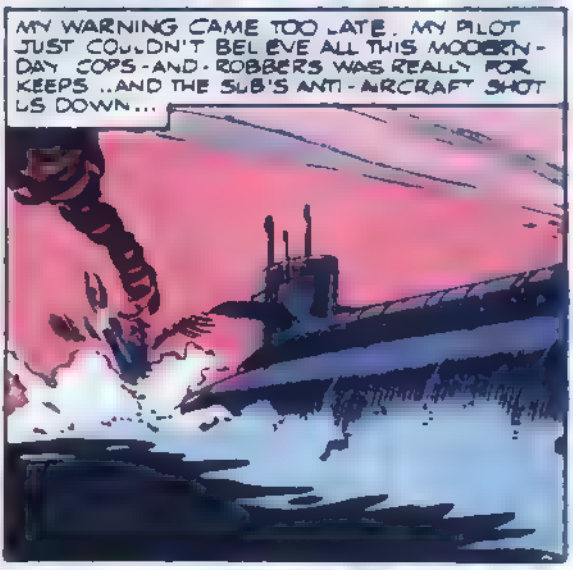

THE GIRL LEAPED TO HER FEET AND TURNED AWAY! SHE WAS RUNNING BY THE TIME I GOT TO THE SIDEWALK AFTER HER! PAUL WAS WAITING IN A BIG ROLLS...
IT WORKED! SHE'S ON HER WAY TO VON WESS RIGHT NOW!
Cafe Monde

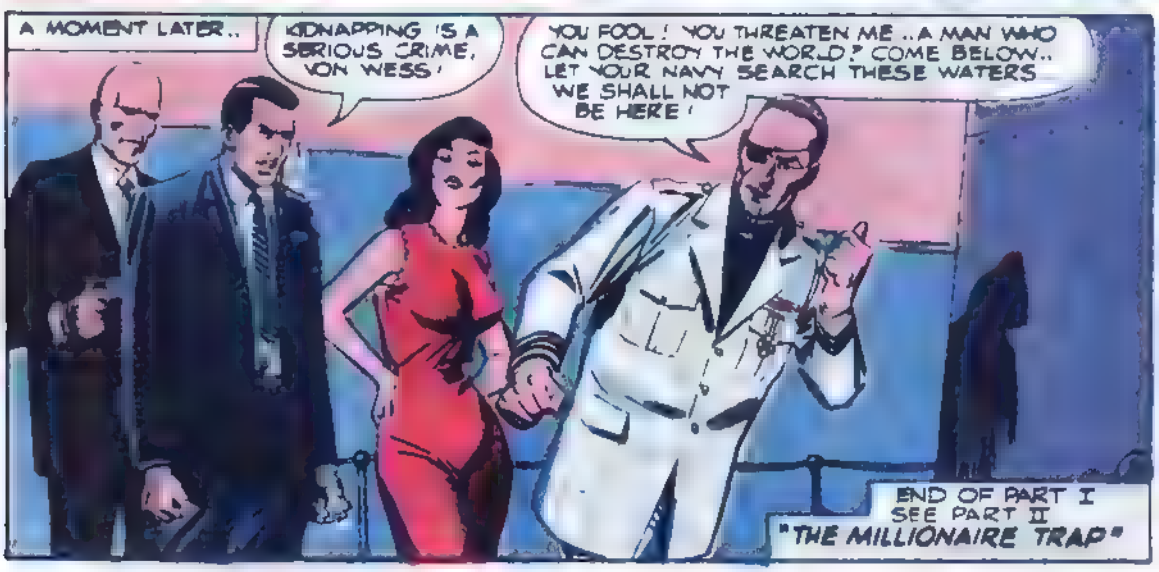
HEADING FOR OCEANPORT... THERE'S A MARINA THERE! AND THERE'S ALSO A HELI-PORT FOR WEALTHY COMMUTERS BETWEEN HERE AND THE MARINA!

CHARLTON COMICS GIVE YOU MORE!



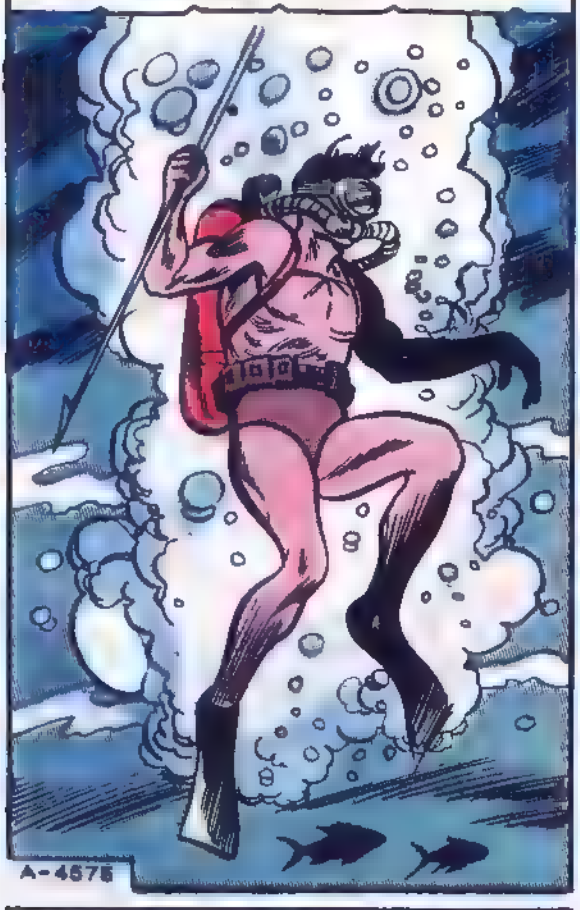



MY WARNING CAME TOO LATE. MY PILOT JUST COULDN'T BELIEVE ALL THIS MODERN-DAY COPS-AND-ROBBERS WAS REALLY FOR KEEPS..AND THE SUB'S ANTI-AIRCRAFT SHOT US DOWN...


A MOMENT LATER..
KIDNAPPING IS A SERIOUS CRIME, VON WESS!
YOU FOOL! YOU THREATEN ME..A MAN WHO CAN DESTROY THE WORLD? COME BELOW.. LET YOUR NAVY SEARCH THESE WATERS WE SHALL NOT BE HERE!
END OF PART I
SEE PART II
"THE MILLIONAIRE TRAP"

THE GUARDIANS

JAKE ROLAND HEARD THE LEGEND IN A TAMPA CAFE/ THERE WAS A SPANISH GALLEON, THEY SAID...ON SKELETON REEF/ BUT NO MAN COULD HARVEST THE GOLD DUBLOONS AND LIVE/ SO JAKE ROLAND DECIDED TO TRY/



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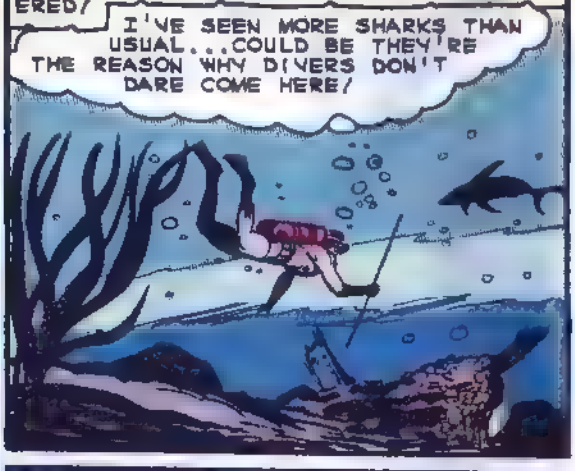
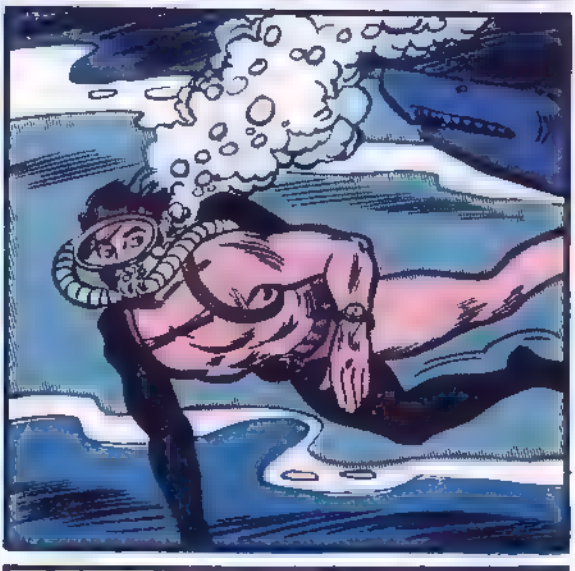
JAKE SEARCHED THREE DAYS BEFORE HE LOCATED THE GALLEON...CORAL-ENCRUSTED, LOOKING ALMOST LIKE PART OF THE REEF ON WHICH IT HAD FOUNDERED/

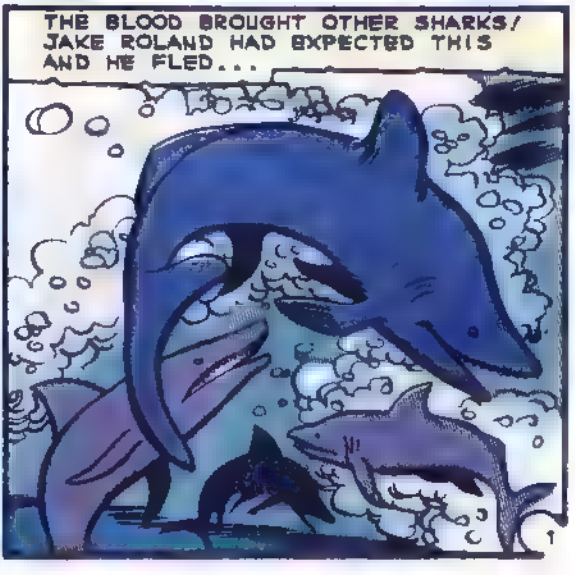
I'VE SEEN MORE SHARKS THAN USUAL...COULD BE THEY'RE THE REASON WHY DIVERS DON'T DARE COME HERE/

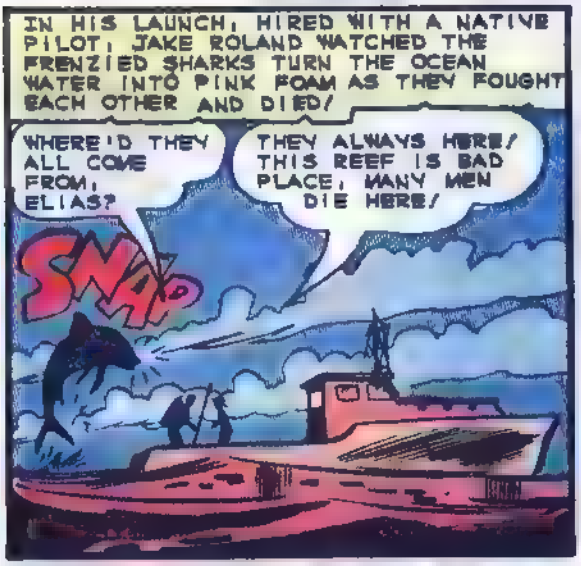


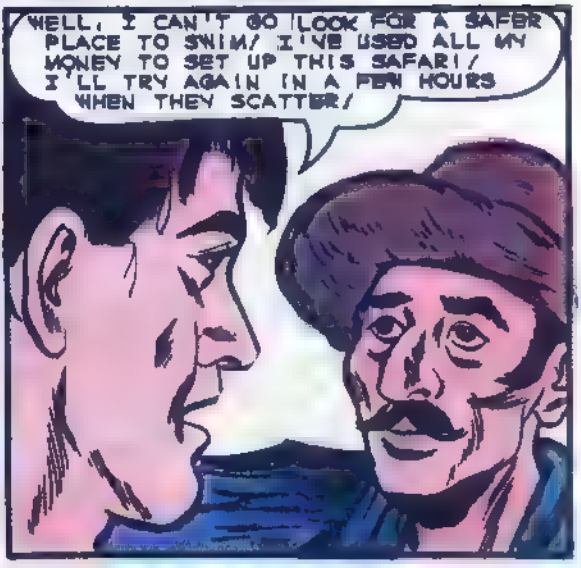


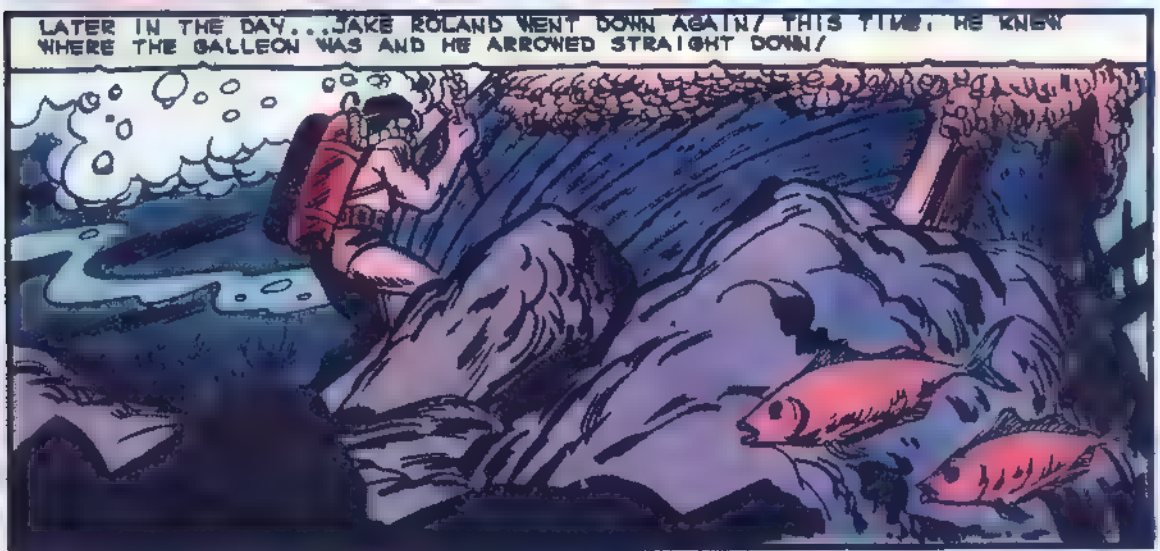
THE DIVER WAS EXPERIENCED AND A BRAVE MAN/ HE USED THE SPEAR...

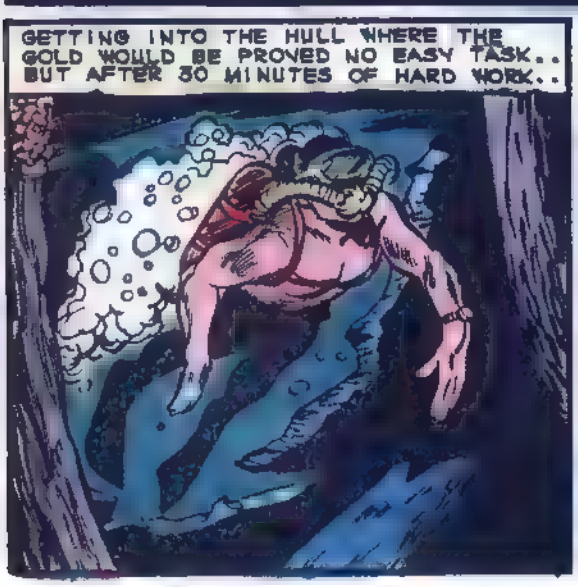
THE BLOOD BROUGHT OTHER SHARKS/ JAKE ROLAND HAD EXPECTED THIS AND HE FLED...

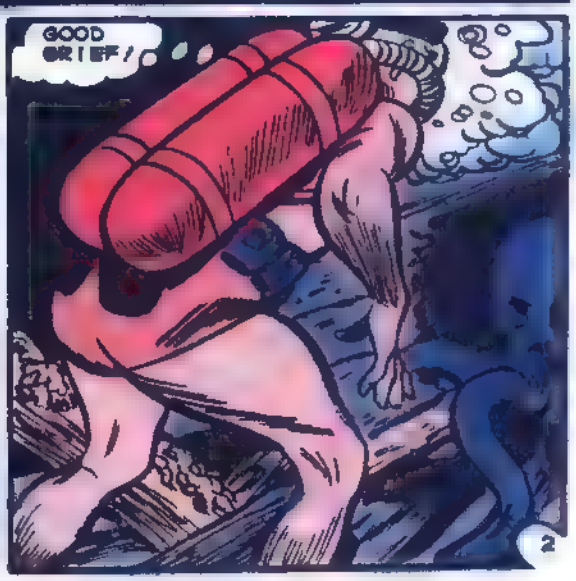


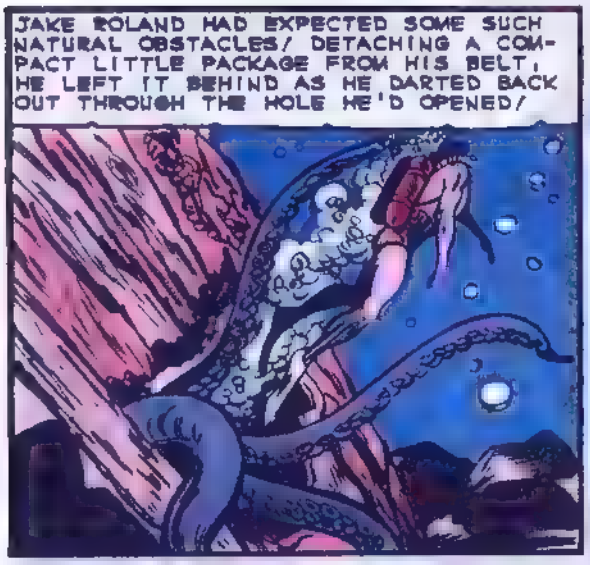

IN HIS LAUNCH, HIRED WITH A NATIVE PILOT, JAKE ROLAND WATCHED THE FRENZIED SHARKS TURN THE OCEAN WATER INTO PINK FOAM AS THEY FOUGHT EACH OTHER AND DIED/
WHERE'D THEY ALL COME FROM, ELIAS?
THEY ALWAYS HERE/ THIS REEF IS BAD PLACE, MANY MEN DIE HERE/
SNAP

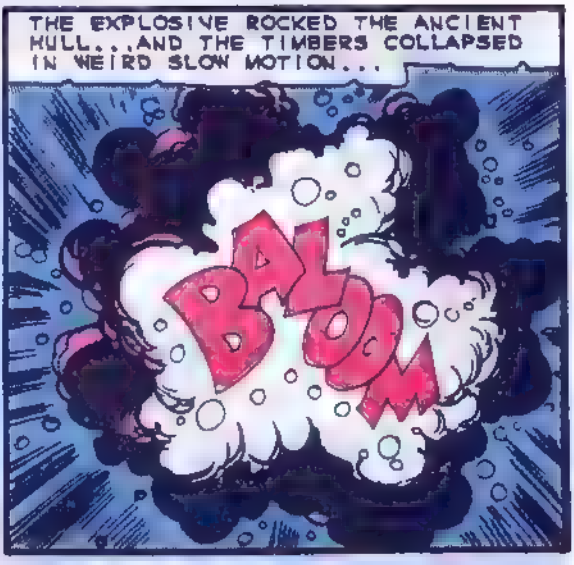

WELL, I CAN'T GO LOOK FOR A SAFER PLACE TO SWIM/ I'VE USED ALL MY MONEY TO SET UP THIS SAFARI/ I'LL TRY AGAIN IN A FEW HOURS WHEN THEY SCATTER/

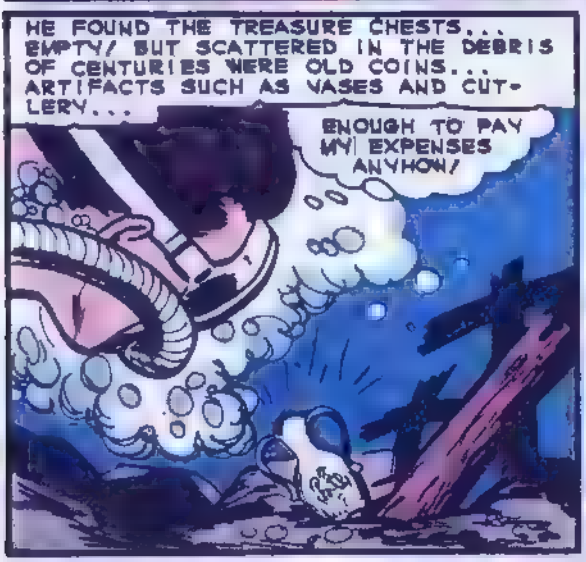

LATER IN THE DAY...JAKE ROLAND WENT DOWN AGAIN/ THIS TIME, HE KNEW WHERE THE GALLEON WAS AND HE ARROWED STRAIGHT DOWN/

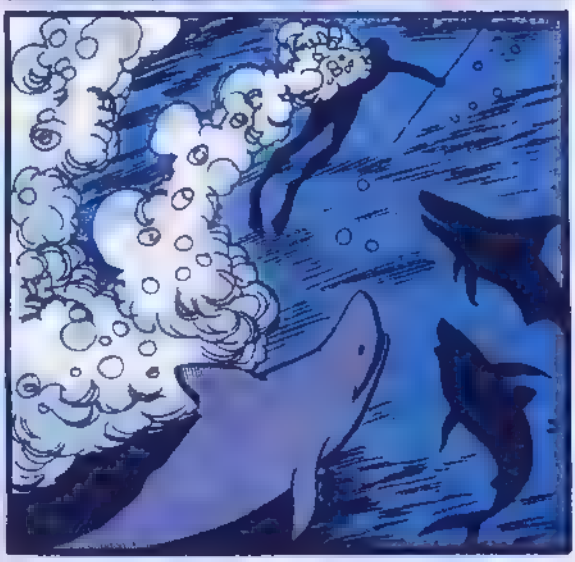

GETTING INTO THE HULL WHERE THE GOLD WOULD BE PROVED NO EASY TASK.. BUT AFTER 30 MINUTES OF HARD WORK..

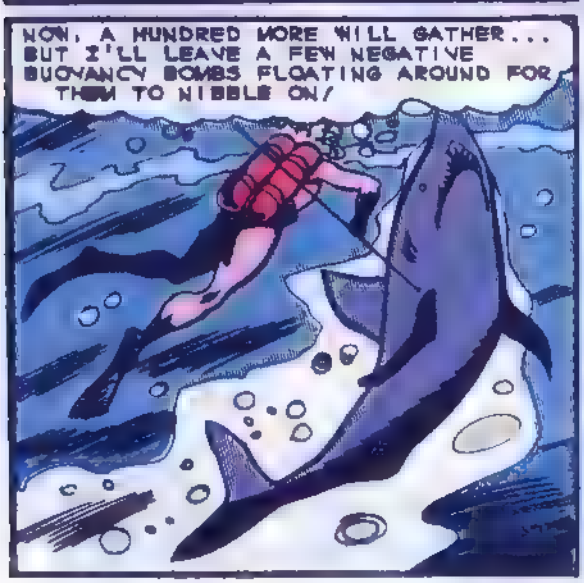

GOOD GRIEF/


JAKE ROLAND HAD EXPECTED SOME SUCH NATURAL OBSTACLES/ DETACHING A COMPACT LITTLE PACKAGE FROM HIS BELT, HE LEFT IT BEHIND AS HE DARTED BACK OUT THROUGH THE HOLE HE'D OPENED/

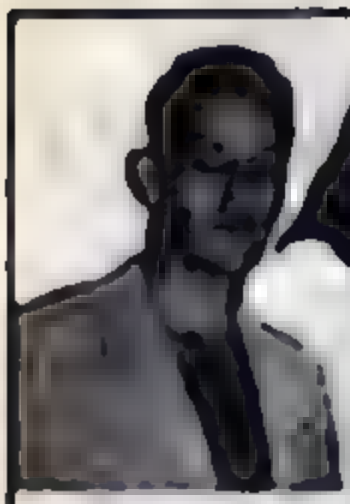

THE EXPLOSIVE ROCKED THE ANCIENT HULL...AND THE TIMBERS COLLAPSED IN WEIRD SLOW MOTION...
BALOOM


HE FOUND THE TREASURE CHESTS... EMPTY/ BUT SCATTERED IN THE DEBRIS OF CENTURIES WERE OLD COINS... ARTIFACTS SUCH AS VASES AND CUTLERY...
ENOUGH TO PAY MY EXPENSES ANYHOW/




NOW, A HUNDRED MORE WILL GATHER... BUT I'LL LEAVE A FEW NEGATIVE BUOYANCY BOMBS FLOATING AROUND FOR THEM TO NIBBLE ON/

SAFELY IN THE BOAT...JAKE ROLAND AND HIS DELIGHTED PILOT SAW THE A MAN-EATERS SWIM FRENZIEDLY INTO THE AREA TO FEED ONCE MORE/ AND THE EXPLOSIONS A FEW MINUTES LATER EXPLODED IN THEIR MIDST...RIDDING THE COAST OF MANKILLERS FOR MANY YEARS TO COME/
THANK YOU, SIR/ NOW FISH WILL COME TO THE REEF AGAIN...AND OUR PEOPLE WILL PROSPER/
END



BOYS! MEN! I'LL HELP YOU MASTER YUBIWAZA

says N. J. FLEMING — YUBIWAZA MASTER

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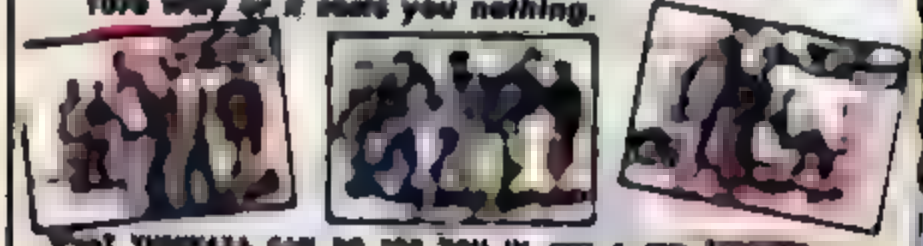

"I WEIGH ONLY 98 LBS. — YET I CAN PARALYZE A 200 POUND ATTACKER WITH JUST A FINGER —BECAUSE I KNOW YUBIWAZA!" says Yoshie Imagawa — Pretty Japanese wife of N. J. Fleming — Yubiwaza Master

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RANEY'S RANGERS

The name is Major Henry Raney and at that time I was in command of the roughest and toughest bunch of jungle guerilla fighters that ever walked the face of this earth. Our assignment was a rather simple one: To annoy the Japs and let them know we still could sting back at that. We must have been successful because the price on my head was about equal to thirty thousands dollars in gold coin. My second in command was Captain Henry Patterson. My staff sergeant was Mike Gallenti. Our language expert was Rhat Bhupa barred from the Indian Army. We were resting at our base at Mgho Lupam. Definitely there was something "big" brewing in the air.

"General McDonnell of our army is here with General Walter Leigher of the Indian-British Army," said Captain Patterson to me. "With a lot of other brass. They must be cooking something. Wonder if we are in on it?"

Half an hour later we knew the answer. They sent for us and the two of us were taken into the big conference room. We just weren't prepared for the group rising to welcome us.

"No words of appreciation can express our feeling towards you and your men, Major Raney," began General Walter Leigher. "His Majesty's Government feels you have definitely showed the Japanese we can fight back at them."

Nice words of praise. But what was up? Soon that information was given to us by General McDonnell.

"In one month we shall have assembled the largest air invasion fleet ever seen on this continent. We are going to push the Japanese back right into the sea. We will be able to fly over the highest mountains. Drop thousands of paratroopers with heavy fighting equipment. But not today nor tomorrow. Just in one month. And that means we must buy a month's time in which the Japanese are unable to advance into India. But this is exactly what they plan to do. You see that detailed map on the wall? Notice the small red circle. Right there the Japanese have assembled a tremendous ammunition and supply depot. We want you to take one hundred of your rangers with you. And destroy destroy that depot."

"Will we get our supplies the regular way by parachuts drop?" I asked.

"Of course," replied Colonel Cooper who was in charge of that activity.

"And we get taken out, how?" I persisted.

There was a peculiar deadly silence for a few minutes. I knew the answer before it hit my ears.

"This will be a one way trip, Major. You better ask for volunteers and make it it clear to them they won't come back. There is no way in which we can get you out. And the chances are a thousand to one you will be liquidated by the enemy."

When I put it up to my Rangers every every one of them volunteered. So we did it by lots and took one hundred out of the three hundred men available. Lieutenant James Gaffey was left behind. And he didn't like it.

"Somebody has to carry on the work and tradition," I told him. "My men leave tomorrow morning at sun-up."

The rainy season had ended but the ground was still damp. We had so trouble at all for the first few days. Then we reached the Miapung River. This time we tried something different. We had with us two inflatable light rubber rafts. We blew them up and made them into a ferry to take across the men and the supplies. It took time but it worked very well. Sergeant Mike Gallenti went out with some of our men to scout the territory. He came back with some natives who told us the sad news.

The Japs were raiding all the villages and towns. To impress the natives into labor battalions. They were cutting a road through the jungle. So that their heavy guns and tanks could move across right into India. Well, would those same natives help us? The few old men left volunteered to carry our supplies. We were due for a drop soon and it would

have to be a low level one. Otherwise the enemy would spot it. We camped at a place we could defend with ease and waited. The next morning the light planes arrived and we contacted them by radio. They dropped the explosives we would need to blow up that ammunition and supply depot.

Late that afternoon we spotted a small Japanese patrol. We wanted no gun fire. So the attack was sudden, furious-and by knife. We wiped every one of them out. And dug holes and buried the bodies.

"Give us their rifles," pleaded one of the old natives. "We too should fight with you for our homes and our people."

"But you will be wiped out," I told them.

"We will die anyway," grinned the old man. "Better in honor than in shame."

We had to work in a hurry now. Because I figured when that patrol didn't return, the Japs would get worried. Figure something was up and send out a big force. Meanwhile until they heard something they would reason everything was o.k. We saw a road that was being built by the conscript native labor force. But now we were in a hurry. We just left them there and the Japanese guards never saw us. If they had-they would have departed this earth in record time. The old natives had a lot of energy. They knew about that big depot and took us to a hill. The sun was going down and from there with my field glasses I could see the supplies.

"There's our objective," I said to Captain Patterson. "We use grenades with dynamite sticks. But we have to get within reach."

Fortunately the night was dark. We crept along the ground on our bellies. The entire area was enclosed in barbed wire and there were guard towers and searchlights.

"We cut the wire to get in. Then shot out the searchlights. That should help the confusion. Those of us who survive can come back here. We fight until the last bullet."

So we cut the wire and crawled inside the depot. We couldn't move until we had shot out those searchlights. Then at a given signal some of my men went into action. While the rest ran through the depot throwing death and destruction on all sides. What had taken a long time to accumulate went up in flames and explosions within one hour. But the fires burned all that night and into the next day. Most of my men managed to escape. Some were trapped by the explosions Others killed in hand-to-hand fighting Japanese soldiers.

However the confusion helped us very much. We returned to where we had left the old natives. Rhat Bhupa had been with them and as soon as he spotted me he told me the news.

"The flames and explosions informed me you have been successful in your task. This very old native has a good idea. If we go back we will be wiped out. We don't have a chance. Now the Japanese will figure logically that we are going to make a dash for our home base and thus cut us off. This old native suggests that we do just the opposite. Go deeper into enemy territory. He knows of an old temple where he can hide all of us."

There are times in life when the attitude is something like this: What have I got to lose? So we followed him and the others through heavy jungle. Then we came to a clearing and there was a very large temple.

"Centuries ago there was a large flourishing civilization here," explained Rbat Bupa. "This is the temple to the Rain Goddess. We all go inside."

Which we did and we were facing a very large stone Goddess. The old native bent down and found a hidden spring. The old native bent down and found a hidden spring. The base opened and all of us walked down along a narrow corridor until we came to some kind of a large subterranean room. I figured that in times of trouble they hid here. And it was a correct guess. Some women were there and there were many bags of rice.

"You and your men will stay here," said the old native. "I shall see that we get goods to you when needed. The women will cook for you."

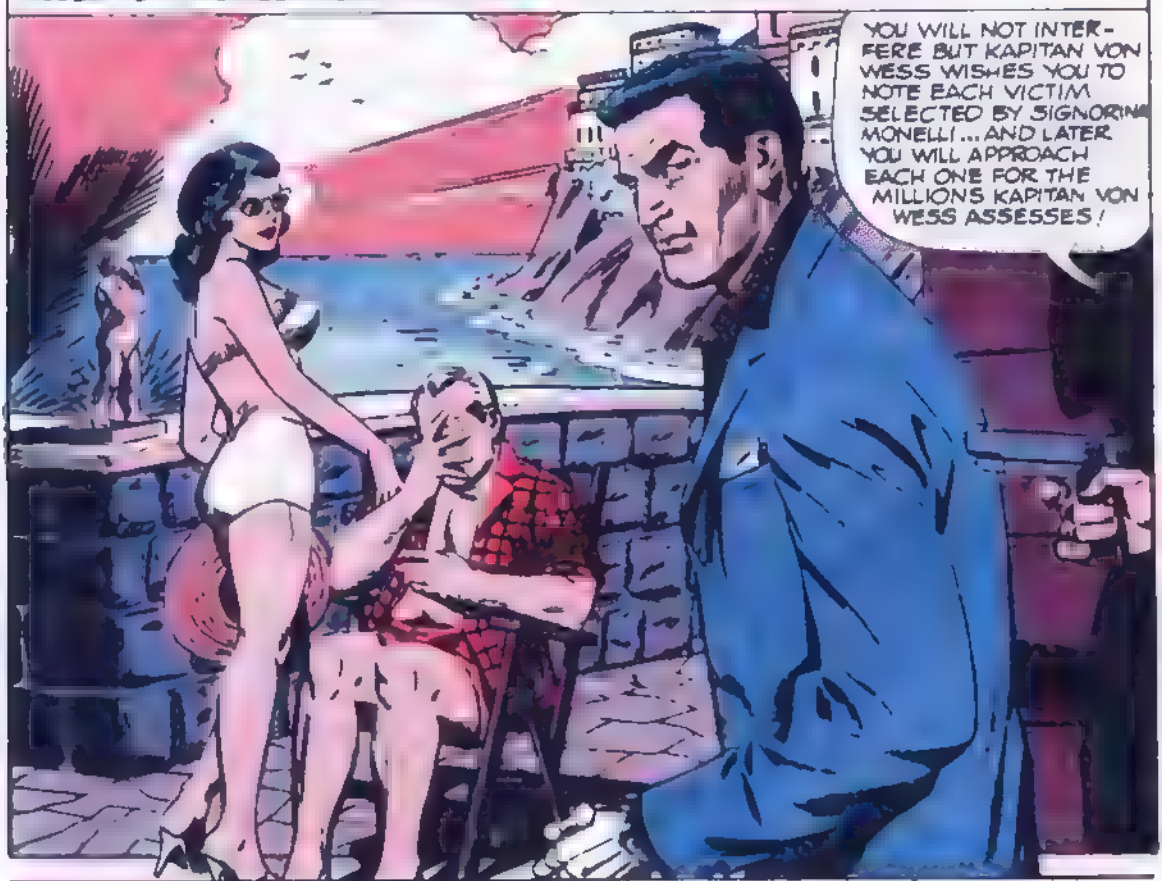
We all stayed there for about three more weeks. Then one day we heard explosions. And also the sound of many planes. The counterattack had begun. We came out of our hiding and soon we met some of the para-troopers. Finally we met Colonel Cooper who had given up up for dead.

"We knew you had blown up that depot," he told me. "And it gave us just the time break we needed. We are now on our way to victory and nothing will stop us!"

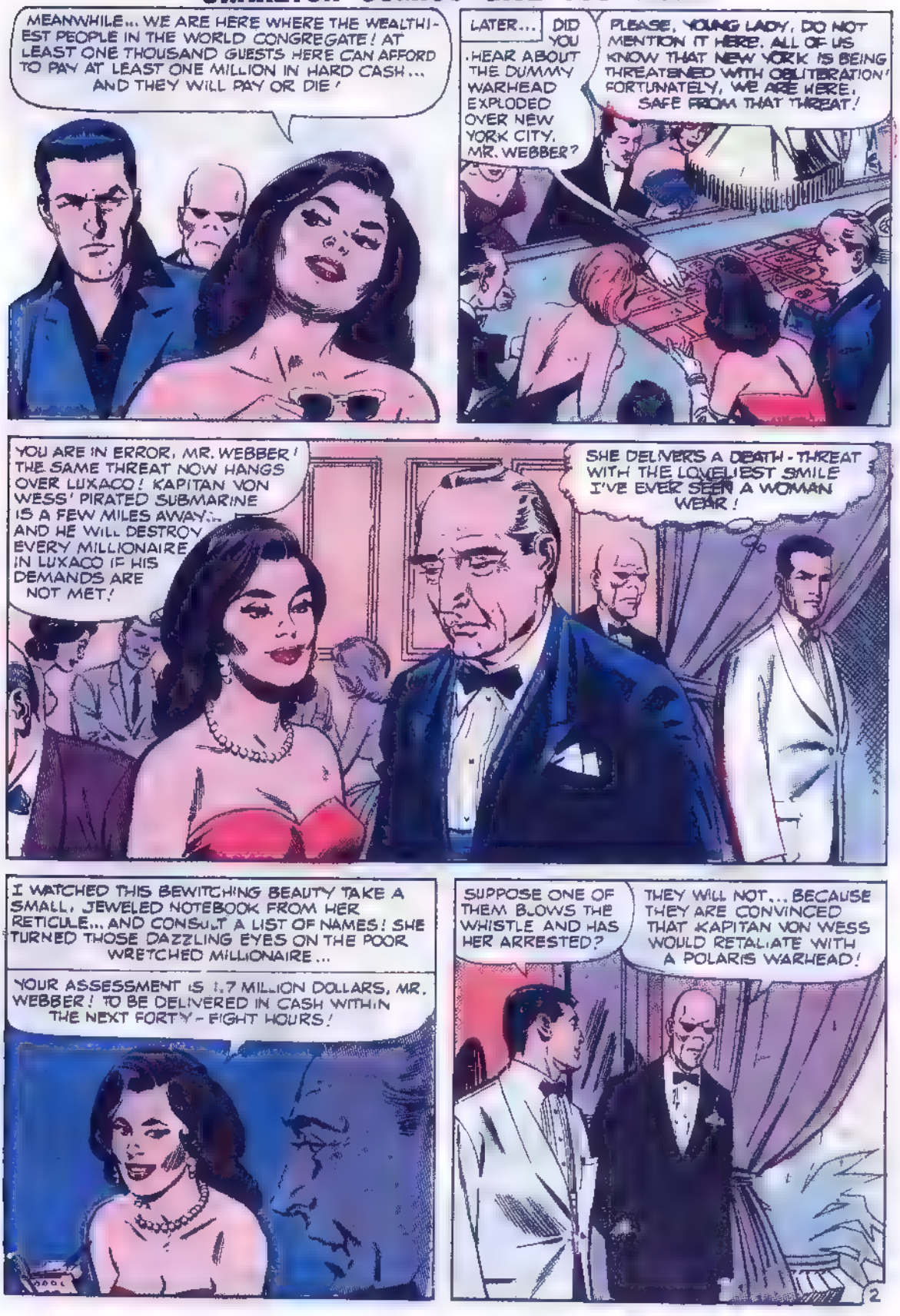
I would like to add that after the war I went back to this territory. I was curious about that old temple. It had saved my life as well as the lives of my remaining men. The old men had all died but younger ones knew about me and the work we had done. But I could learn nothing about the ancient civilization that had once existed. I was grateful for that remaining temple that had kept us secure until help had arrived.

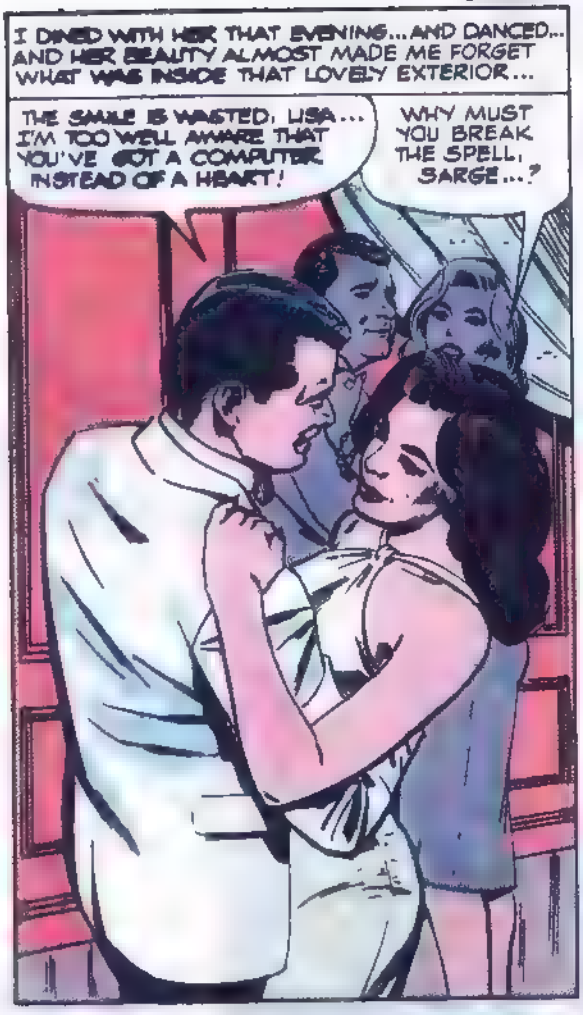
PART II "THE MILLIONAIRE TRAP"

OUR DESTINATION WAS LUXACO. . THAT TINY MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRY WHERE ROULETTE WAS THE BASIC INDUSTRY. POKER CHIPS A MAJOR CROP AND BUSTED BANKROLLS THE PRINCIPAL EXPORT ! I WENT ASHORE IN A FAST POWERBOAT WITH KAPITAN WERNER VON WESS. LISA MONELLI. AND A FISH-EYED KILLER NAMED. SIMPLY. PAUL TO SEE THE GIRL OPERATE AMONG THESE THE WEALTHIEST MEN IN THE WORLD WAS AN EDUCATION .


YOU WILL NOT INTERFERE BUT KAPITAN VON WESS WISHES YOU TO NOTE EACH VICTIM SELECTED BY SIGNORINA MONELLI ... AND LATER YOU WILL APPROACH EACH ONE FOR THE MILLIONS KAPITAN VON WESS ASSESSES!

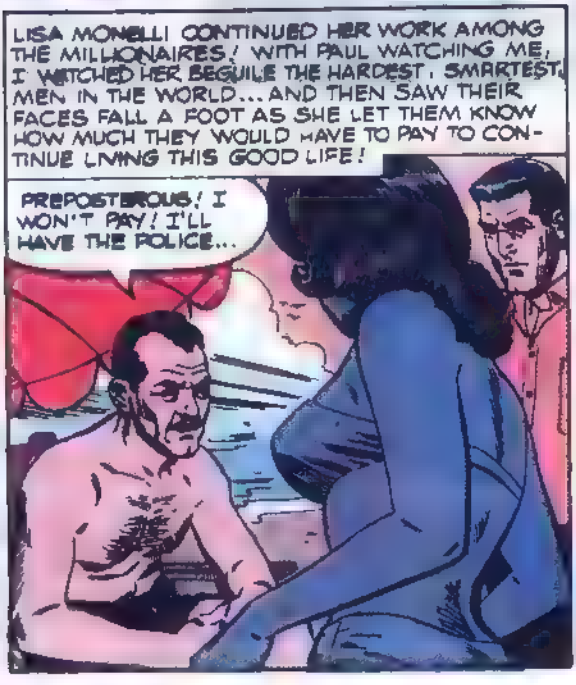
OF COURSE NOT ! IT MUST BE PAID... KAPITAN VON WESS IS TELEPHONING NOW... YOUR NAVY KNOWS THE BIG BOMB CAN BE DELIVERED BY US ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD!


MEANWHILE... WE ARE HERE WHERE THE WEALTHIEST PEOPLE IN THE WORLD CONGREGATE! AT LEAST ONE THOUSAND GUESTS HERE CAN AFFORD TO PAY AT LEAST ONE MILLION IN HARD CASH... AND THEY WILL PAY OR DIE!
LATER... DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE DUMMY WARHEAD EXPLODED OVER NEW YORK CITY, MR. WEBBER?
PLEASE, YOUNG LADY, DO NOT MENTION IT HERE. ALL OF US KNOW THAT NEW YORK IS BEING THREATENED WITH OBLITERATION! FORTUNATELY, WE ARE HERE, SAFE FROM THAT THREAT!
YOU ARE IN ERROR, MR. WEBBER! THE SAME THREAT NOW HANGS OVER LUXACO! KAPITAN VON WESS' PIRATED SUBMARINE IS A FEW MILES AWAY... AND HE WILL DESTROY EVERY MILLIONAIRE IN LUXACO IF HIS DEMANDS ARE NOT MET!
SHE DELIVERS A DEATH-THREAT WITH THE LOVELIEST SMILE I'VE EVER SEEN A WOMAN WEAR!
I WATCHED THIS BEWITCHING BEAUTY TAKE A SMALL, JEWELED NOTEBOOK FROM HER RETICULE... AND CONSULT A LIST OF NAMES! SHE TURNED THOSE DAZZLING EYES ON THE POOR WRETCHED MILLIONAIRE...
YOUR ASSESSMENT IS 1.7 MILLION DOLLARS, MR. WEBBER! TO BE DELIVERED IN CASH WITHIN THE NEXT FORTY-EIGHT HOURS!
SUPPOSE ONE OF THEM BLOWS THE WHISTLE AND HAS HER ARRESTED?
THEY WILL NOT... BECAUSE THEY ARE CONVINCED THAT KAPITAN VON WESS WOULD RETALIATE WITH A POLARIS WARHEAD!
2

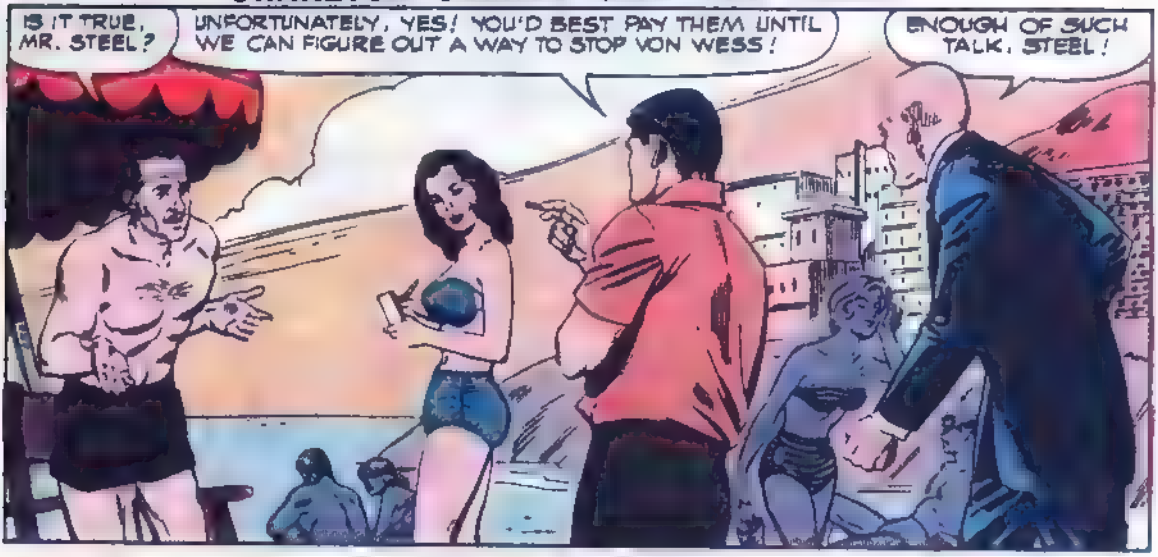

I DINED WITH HER THAT EVENING... AND DANCED... AND HER BEAUTY ALMOST MADE ME FORGET WHAT WAS INSIDE THAT LOVELY EXTERIOR...
THE SMILE IS WASTED, LISA... I'M TOO WELL AWARE THAT YOU'VE GOT A COMPUTER INSTEAD OF A HEART!
WHY MUST YOU BREAK THE SPELL, SARGE...?

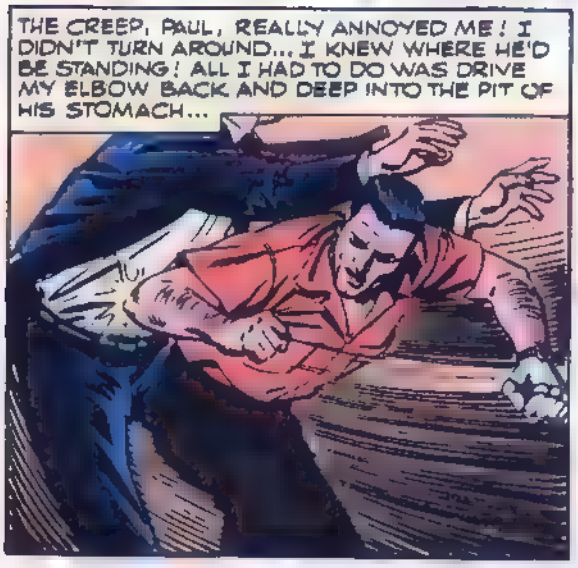
MAKE ME FORGET WERNER VON WESS! PERHAPS, IF YOU LOVED ME, I MIGHT BECOME DIFFERENT... THE BADNESS IN ME MIGHT...

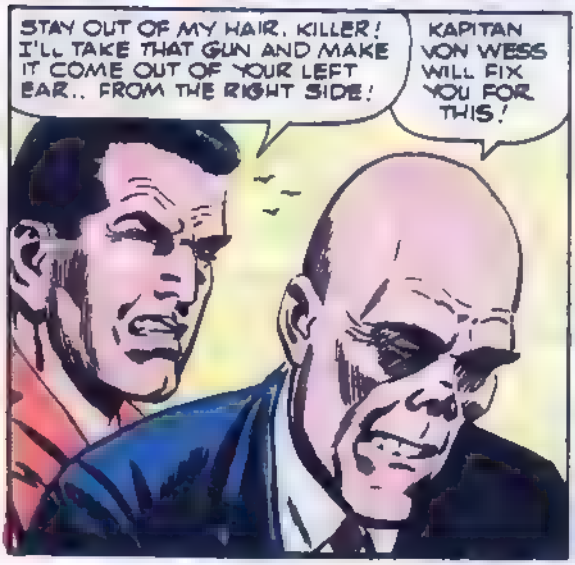
GET AWAY FROM ME, DELILAH!
YOU ARE A FOOL LIKE ALL MEN!

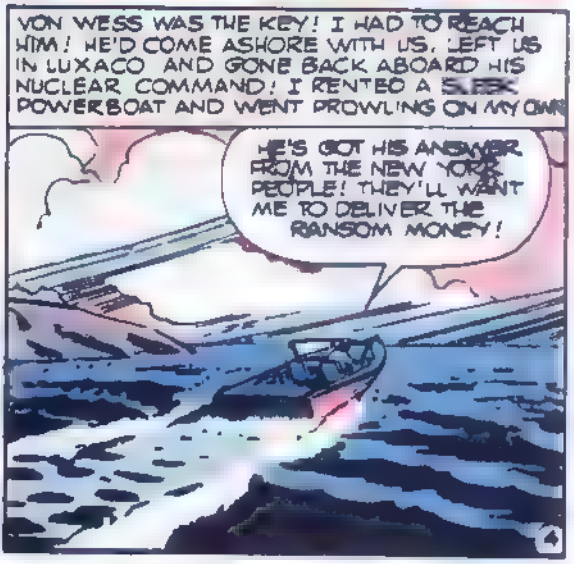

LISA MONELLI CONTINUED HER WORK AMONG THE MILLIONAIRES; WITH PAUL WATCHING ME, I WATCHED HER BEGUILE THE HARDEST, SMARTEST MEN IN THE WORLD... AND THEN SAW THEIR FACES FALL A FOOT AS SHE LET THEM KNOW HOW MUCH THEY WOULD HAVE TO PAY TO CONTINUE LIVING THIS GOOD LIFE!
PREPOSTEROUS! I WON'T PAY! I'LL HAVE THE POLICE...

MR. STEEL IS PRESENTLY WORKING FOR THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT; HE CAN TELL YOU THAT THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT CONSIDER THE DEMANDS PREPOSTEROUS... AND THE CITY OF NEW YORK IS NOW NEGOTIATING DELIVERY OF JUST SUCH A RANSOM!


IS IT TRUE, MR. STEEL?
UNFORTUNATELY, YES! YOU'D BEST PAY THEM UNTIL WE CAN FIGURE OUT A WAY TO STOP VON WESS!
ENOUGH OF SUCH TALK, STEEL!


THE CREEP, PAUL, REALLY ANNOYED ME! I DIDN'T TURN AROUND... I KNEW WHERE HE'D BE STANDING! ALL I HAD TO DO WAS DRIVE MY ELBOW BACK AND DEEP INTO THE PIT OF HIS STOMACH...


STAY OUT OF MY HAIR, KILLER! I'LL TAKE THAT GUN AND MAKE IT COME OUT OF YOUR LEFT EAR.. FROM THE RIGHT SIDE!
KAPITAN VON WESS WILL FIX YOU FOR THIS!


VON WESS WAS THE KEY! I HAD TO REACH HIM! HE'D COME ASHORE WITH US, LEFT US IN LUXACO AND GONE BACK ABOARD HIS NUCLEAR COMMAND! I RENTED A SLEEK POWERBOAT AND WENT PROWLING ON MY OWN
HE'S GOT HIS ANSWER FROM THE NEW YORK PEOPLE! THEY'LL WANT ME TO DELIVER THE RANSOM MONEY!
4

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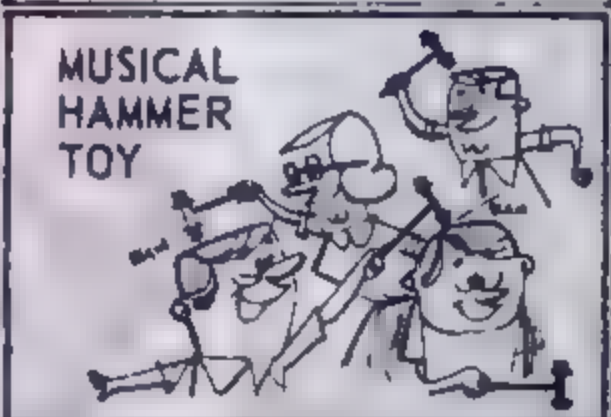

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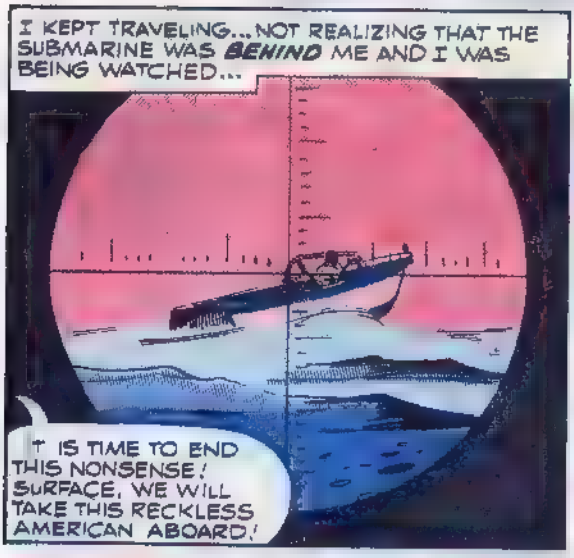
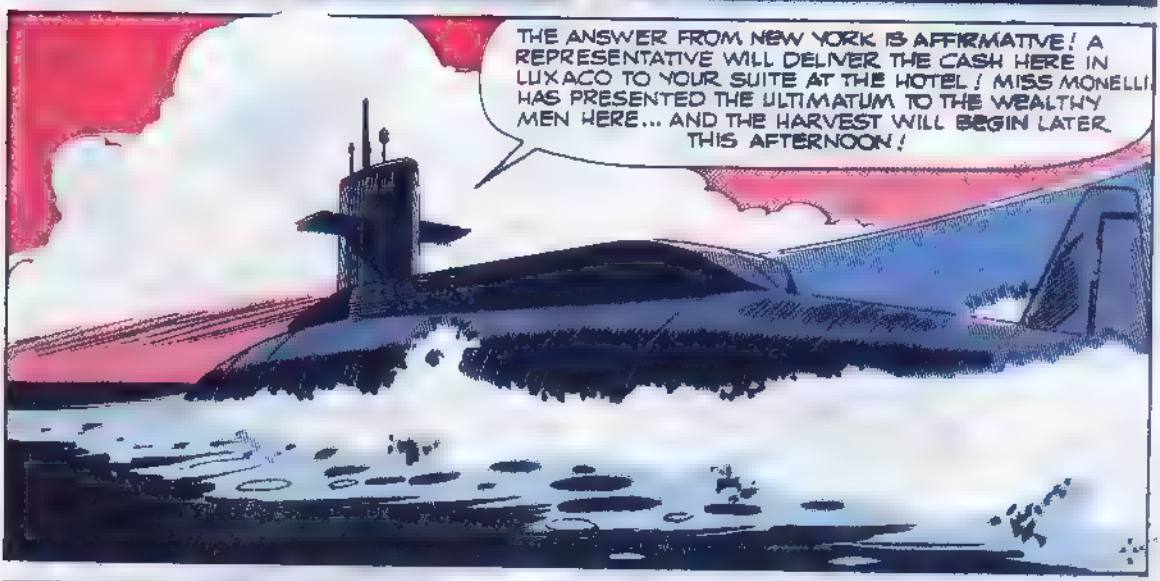
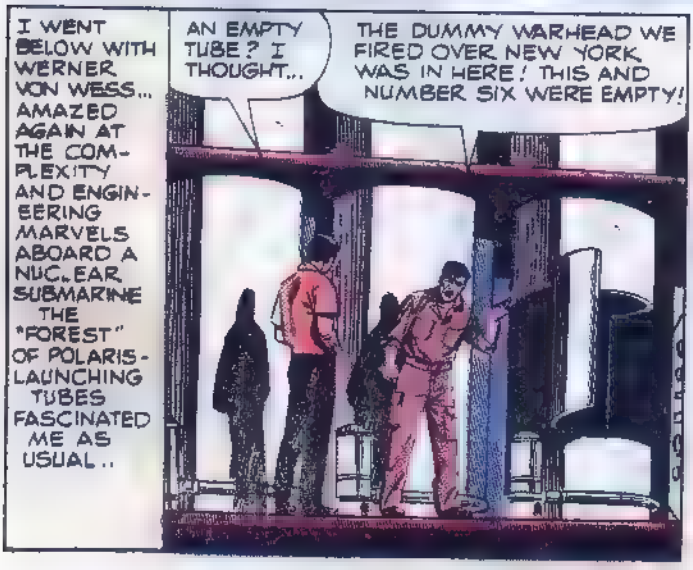
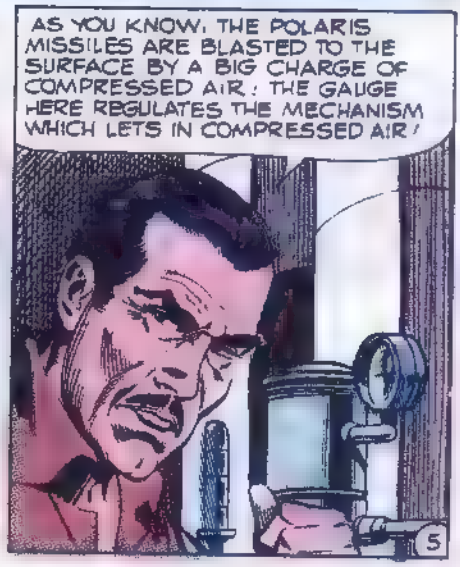

I KEPT TRAVELING...NOT REALIZING THAT THE SUBMARINE WAS BEHIND ME AND I WAS BEING WATCHED...
IT IS TIME TO END THIS NONSENSE! SURFACE, WE WILL TAKE THIS RECKLESS AMERICAN ABOARD!

STEEL! STEEL, YOU WILL COME ABOARD THIS VESSEL RIGHT NOW! MY PLANS ARE NEARING COMPLETION...


THE ANSWER FROM NEW YORK IS AFFIRMATIVE! A REPRESENTATIVE WILL DELIVER THE CASH HERE IN LUXACO TO YOUR SUITE AT THE HOTEL! MISS MONELLI HAS PRESENTED THE ULTIMATUM TO THE WEALTHY MEN HERE... AND THE HARVEST WILL BEGIN LATER THIS AFTERNOON!


I WENT BELOW WITH WERNER VON WESS... AMAZED AGAIN AT THE COMPLEXITY AND ENGINEERING MARVELS ABOARD A NUCLEAR SUBMARINE THE "FOREST" OF POLARIS-LAUNCHING TUBES FASCINATED ME AS USUAL..
AN EMPTY TUBE? I THOUGHT...
THE DUMMY WARHEAD WE FIRED OVER NEW YORK WAS IN HERE! THIS AND NUMBER SIX WERE EMPTY!

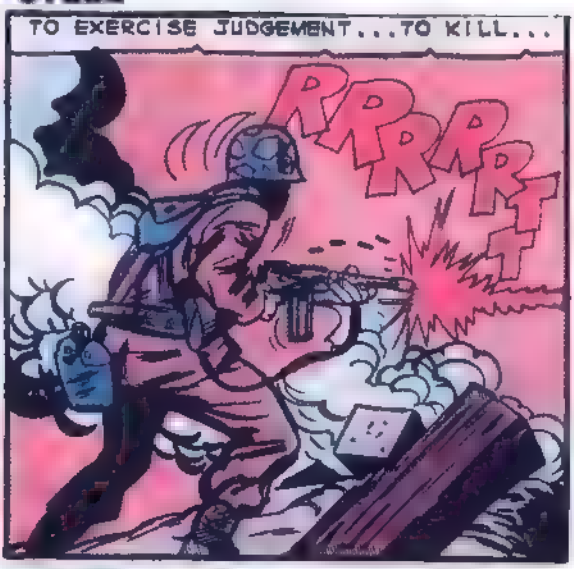

AS YOU KNOW, THE POLARIS MISSILES ARE BLASTED TO THE SURFACE BY A BIG CHARGE OF COMPRESSED AIR; THE GAUGE HERE REGULATES THE MECHANISM WHICH LETS IN COMPRESSED AIR!
5

SARGE STEEL

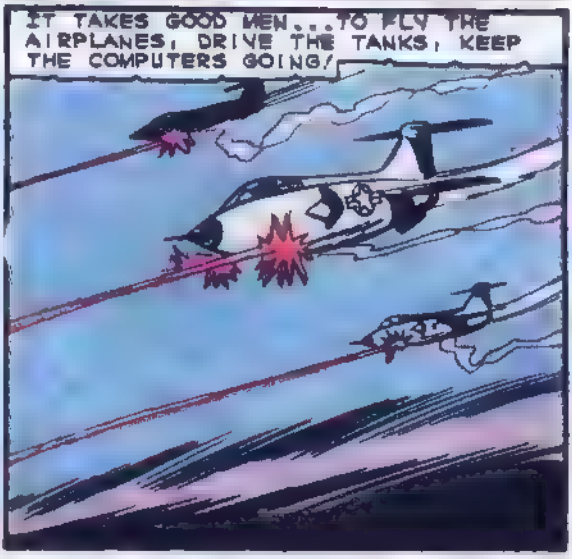
OFF THE LUXACO COAST, KAPITAN VON WESS SURFACED.. AND I WAS SENT ASHORE TO FINISH THE BUSINESS OF COLLECTING MORE THAN $2.000.000.000 IN RANSOM MONEY! LISA MONELLI MET ME AT THE LUXURIOUS MARINA...
HELLO, DOLLY! WHAT'VE YOU GOT IN THE PURSE, STRYCHANINE?
A PISTOL, MY LOVE! I WILL USE IT IF YOU ATTEMPT TRICKERY AGAIN!
THE CONTRIBUTIONS WERE POURING IN! AT MY SUITE, QUIET MEN ARRIVED WITH BULGING BRIEF-CASES, ONE AFTER ANOTHER...
AREN'T THESE BEAUTIFUL, SARGE? CRISP HUNDRED DOLLAR BILLS... THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF THEM!
YOU'RE A FOOL IF YOU THINK THE MONEY MEANS ANYTHING! VON WESS IS PLAYING A DEADLY GAME.. WHAT HE REALLY WANTS TO DO IS USE THOSE POLARIS BOMBS!
GET BACK!
WERNER VON WESS WILL KILL YOU!
I'M GOING TO GIVE HIM THE CHANCE, LADY! WE'RE GOING TO HIM RIGHT NOW!
SHE FIRED...AND I THREW UP MY LEFT HAND.. THE HAND OF STEEL! THE SLUG BOUNCED AND HIT PAUL!
BAM BAM!
END OF PART II SEE PART III
"THE ATOMIC CHALLENGE"

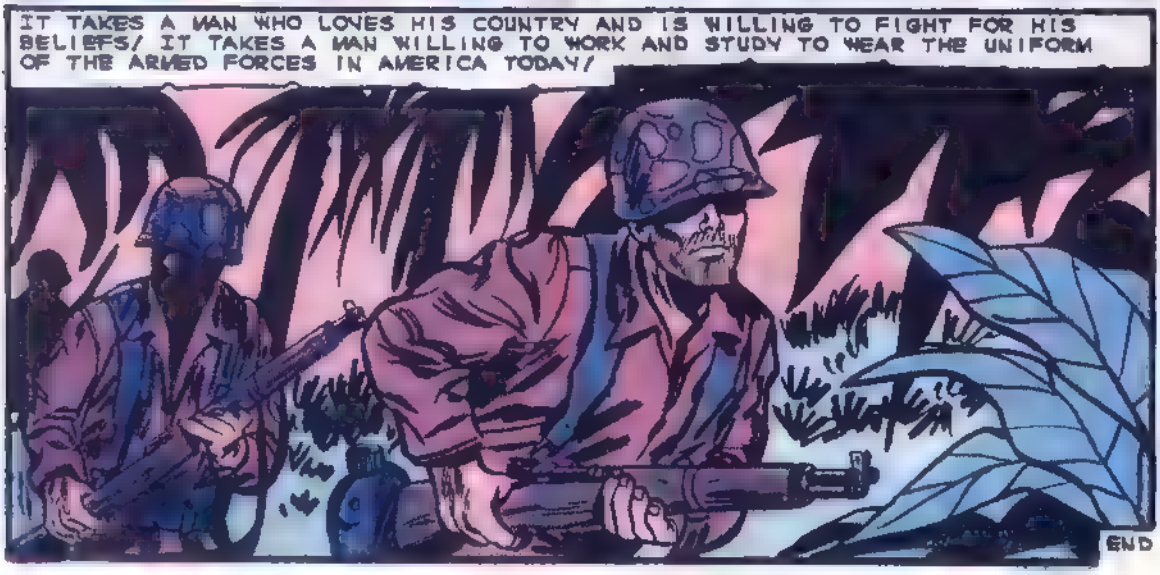
IT TAKES A MAN
THIS IS THE AGE OF SUPER-SONIC AIRCRAFT, OF SUPER-THIS, SUPER-THAT, THAT CAN DO EVERYTHING! BUT A MACHINE CAN'T ROUT THE ENEMY OUT OF A CAVE! IT CAN'T HOLD A CITY. NO! IT TAKES A MAN!
NEW TANKS ARE COMING ALONG EACH YEAR! WITH THICKER ARMOR...HEAVIER, MORE TERRIBLE GUNS...
BAROOM
RRRRRP
BAROOM
A SMOKE GRENADE DROPPED INTO THE MOST MODERN ARMORED TANK CAN BE DEVASTATING...
COME OUT OF THERE WITH YOUR HANDS UP!
A-4574
1

IT TAKES A MAN TO GO TO PLACES MACHINES CAN'T REACH/


TO EXERCISE JUDGEMENT...TO KILL...
RRRRRT
T

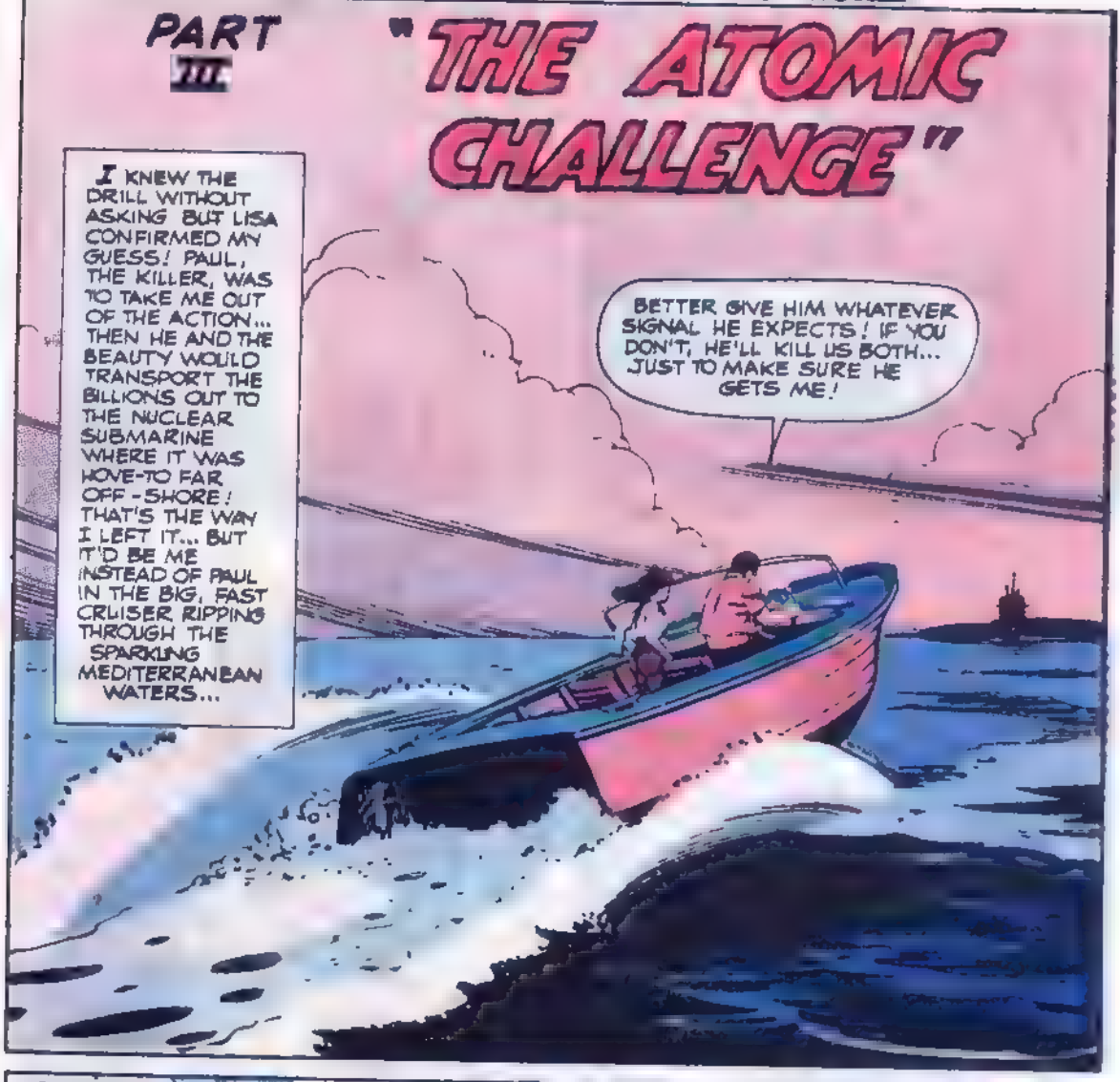
...AND TO HOLD BACK THE BULLETS/

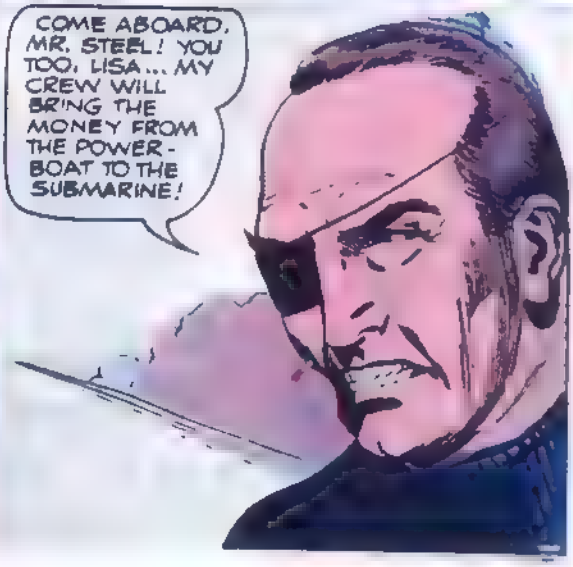

IT TAKES GOOD MEN...TO FLY THE AIRPLANES, DRIVE THE TANKS, KEEP THE COMPUTERS GOING/

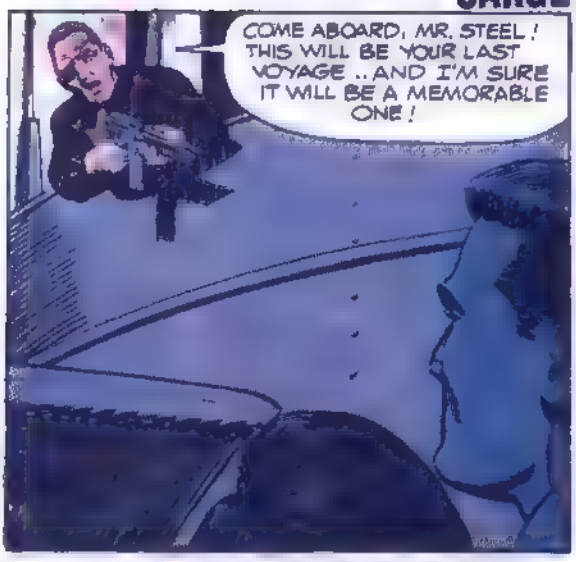

IT TAKES A MAN WHO LOVES HIS COUNTRY AND IS WILLING TO FIGHT FOR HIS BELIEFS/ IT TAKES A MAN WILLING TO WORK AND STUDY TO WEAR THE UNIFORM OF THE ARMED FORCES IN AMERICA TODAY/
END

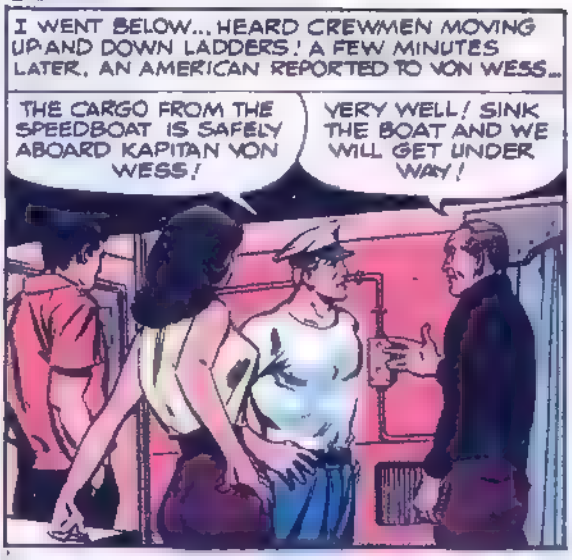
PART III.

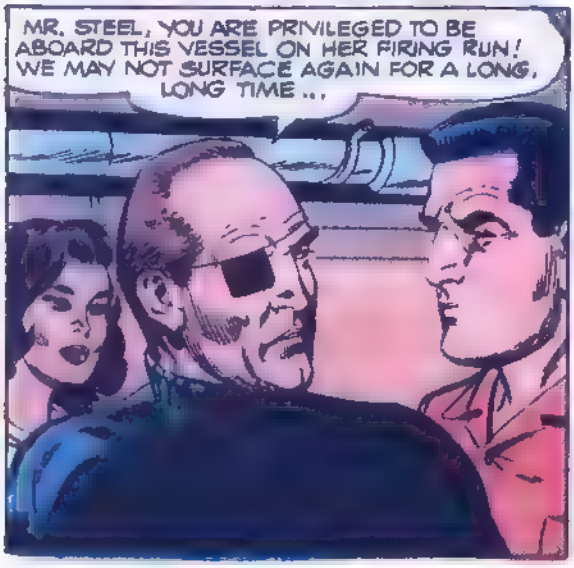
"THE ATOMIC CHALLENGE"


I KNEW THE DRILL WITHOUT ASKING BUT LISA CONFIRMED MY GUESS! PAUL, THE KILLER, WAS TO TAKE ME OUT OF THE ACTION... THEN HE AND THE BEAUTY WOULD TRANSPORT THE BILLIONS OUT TO THE NUCLEAR SUBMARINE WHERE IT WAS HOVE-TO FAR OFF-SHORE! THAT'S THE WAY I LEFT IT... BUT IT'D BE ME INSTEAD OF PAUL IN THE BIG, FAST CRUISER RIPPING THROUGH THE SPARKLING MEDITERRANEAN WATERS...
BETTER GIVE HIM WHATEVER SIGNAL HE EXPECTS! IF YOU DON'T, HE'LL KILL US BOTH... JUST TO MAKE SURE HE GETS ME!

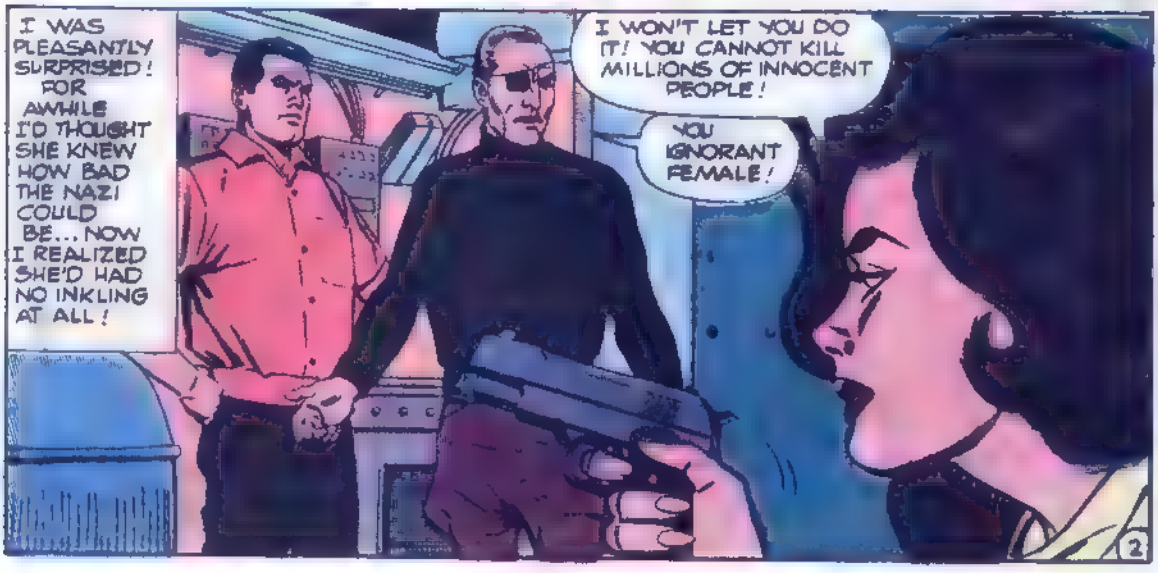


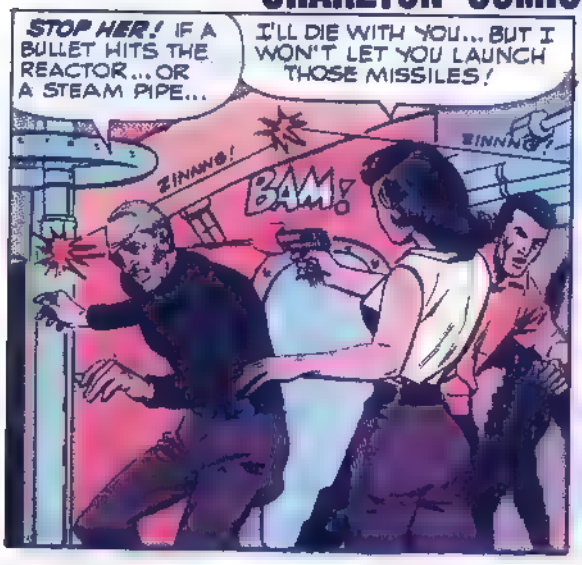

COME ABOARD, MR. STEEL! THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST VOYAGE .. AND I'M SURE IT WILL BE A MEMORABLE ONE!

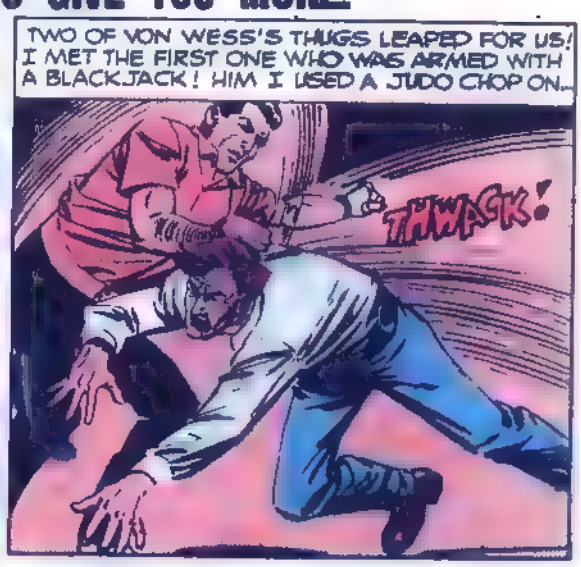

I WENT BELOW... HEARD CREWMEN MOVING UP AND DOWN LADDERS! A FEW MINUTES LATER, AN AMERICAN REPORTED TO VON WESS..
THE CARGO FROM THE SPEEDBOAT IS SAFELY ABOARD KAPITAN VON WESS!
VERY WELL! SINK THE BOAT AND WE WILL GET UNDER WAY!


MR. STEEL, YOU ARE PRIVILEGED TO BE ABOARD THIS VESSEL ON HER FIRING RUN! WE MAY NOT SURFACE AGAIN FOR A LONG, LONG TIME ..

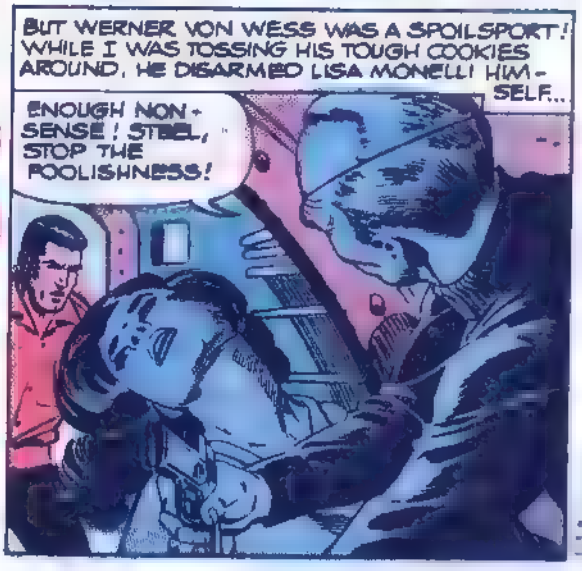
...IF THE POLARIS MISSILES WE FIRE TRIGGER A NUCLEAR WAR IT WILL NOT BE SAFE FOR US TO SURFACE!
WERNER! YOU... YOU WOULDN'T! YOU TOLD ME WE WOULD BE RICH... WE'D BE MILLIONAIRES. YOU SAID NO ONE WOULD BE HARMED!

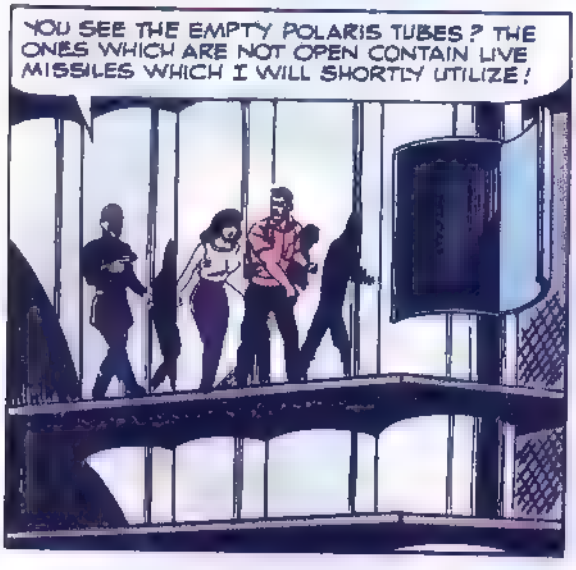

I WAS PLEASANTLY SURPRISED! FOR AWHILE I'D THOUGHT SHE KNEW HOW BAD THE NAZI COULD BE... NOW I REALIZED SHE'D HAD NO INKLING AT ALL!
I WON'T LET YOU DO IT! YOU CANNOT KILL MILLIONS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE!
YOU IGNORANT FEMALE!

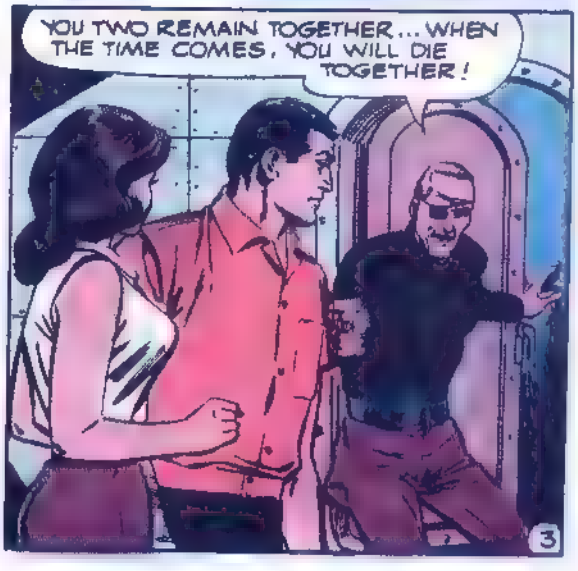

STOP HER! IF A BULLET HITS THE REACTOR... OR A STEAM PIPE...
I'LL DIE WITH YOU... BUT I WON'T LET YOU LAUNCH THOSE MISSILES!
ZINNNG!
BAM!
ZINNNG!


TWO OF VON WESS'S THUGS LEAPED FOR US! I MET THE FIRST ONE WHO WAS ARMED WITH A BLACKJACK! HIM I USED A JUDO CHOP ON...
THWACK!

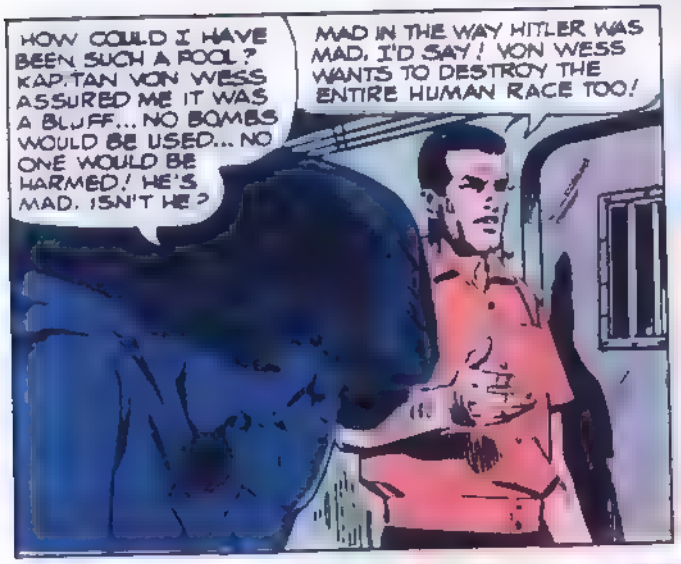
THE SECOND ONE WAS EASIER! A SIMPLE THROW...

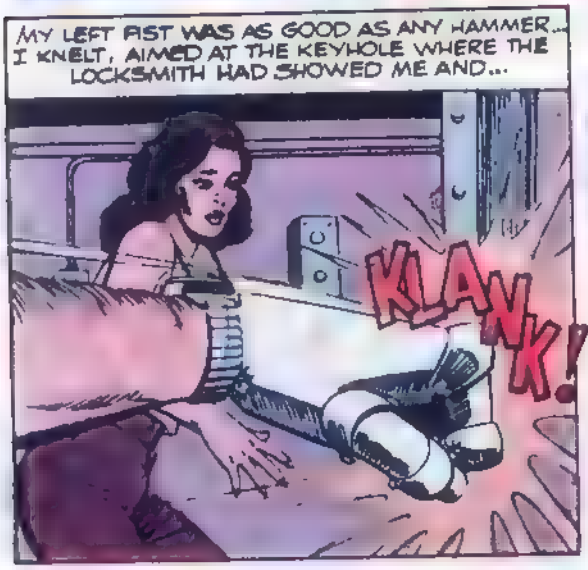

BUT WERNER VON WESS WAS A SPOILSPORT! WHILE I WAS TOSSING HIS TOUGH COOKIES AROUND, HE DISARMED LISA MONELLI HIMSELF...
ENOUGH NONSENSE! STEEL, STOP THE FOOLISHNESS!

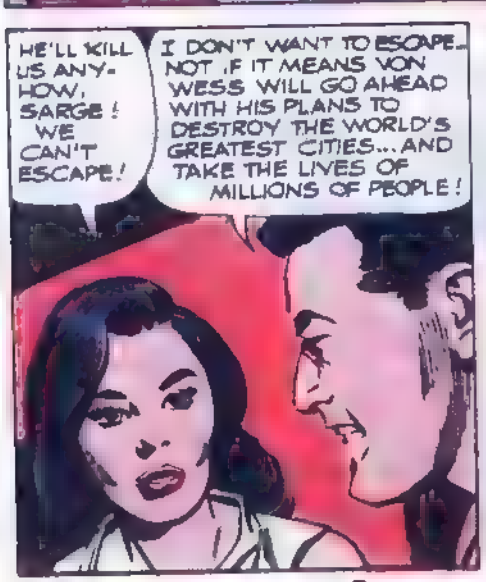

YOU SEE THE EMPTY POLARIS TUBES? THE ONES WHICH ARE NOT OPEN CONTAIN LIVE MISSILES WHICH I WILL SHORTLY UTILIZE!


YOU TWO REMAIN TOGETHER... WHEN THE TIME COMES, YOU WILL DIE TOGETHER!
3

SARGE STEEL


HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SUCH A FOOL? KAPITAN VON WESS ASSURED ME IT WAS A BLUFF... NO BOMBS WOULD BE USED... NO ONE WOULD BE HARMED! HE'S MAD, ISN'T HE?
MAD IN THE WAY HITLER WAS MAD, I'D SAY! VON WESS WANTS TO DESTROY THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE TOO!




HE'LL KILL US ANYHOW, SARGE! WE CAN'T ESCAPE!
I DON'T WANT TO ESCAPE... NOT IF IT MEANS VON WESS WILL GO AHEAD WITH HIS PLANS TO DESTROY THE WORLD'S GREATEST CITIES... AND TAKE THE LIVES OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE!

CONTINUED AFTER FOLLOWING PAGE

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	Pasadena		Wonderful				
3	Under The Boards	4	Do You Love Me	43	Do Love You		
	Walk	50	Once Upon A		Beatles		
4	Bug Dust		Time	44	Please Please Me		
5	Wishin' And	69	Three Window	45	Hello Dolly		
	Hopin'		Coupe	46	The Shoop Shoop		
6	Nobody I Know	94	Chapel Of Love		Song		
7	I Want To Hold	53	Romeo And Juliet	47	Judy's Turn To		
	Your Hand	56	Love Me With All		Cry		
			Your Heart	48	More		
8	As Usual						
9	Da Doo Ron Ron	57	Blue Velvet	49	Green, Green		
	Da Doo Ron Ron	58	Dawned	50	If I Had A		
		59	Baby Workout		Hammer		
10	Surfin' Bird		Loadsa Love	51	Dance		
11	Anyone Who Had		Be My Baby	52	Wait Till My		
	A Heart	60	Then He Kissed		Daddy Gets Home		
12	Dominique	61	Me	53	Ya Ya		
13	Take These		A Walkin Miracle	54	Fun		
	Chains From My	62	Daddy's Home	55	Wild One		
	Heart	63	The Continental	56	Peggy Love		
14	Ain't That A	64	Walk	57	Mama		
	Shame		Mama Said	58	O Dio Mio		
15	This Little One	65	Runnin' Scared	59	I Love The Way		
16	Ron Ronnie	66	Tossin		You Love		
17	Da Doo Ron Ron	67	All My Love	60	You And You		
18	Silver Star	68					

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SARGE STEEL

IF I CAN JUST GET TO THEM ONE AT A TIME...
THUNK
A NUCLEAR SUBMARINE HAS A BIG CREW...WORKING IN DIFFERENT PLACES! I SEARCHED THEM OUT, ONE BY MISERABLE ONE...
THUD!
LEAVING A TRAIL OF UNCONSCIOUS 20th CENTURY PIRATES BEHIND ME, I WORKED MY WAY TO THE CONTROL ROOM... BUT KAPITAN VON WESS FOILED ME THERE...
YOU CAN'T GET TO US, STEEL! I'LL HOLD YOU OFF INDEFINITELY... AND STILL REACH THE TARGET AREAS!
CAN'T WE TALK IT OUT, CAPTAIN?
BLAM!
TALK! WORDS WILL NEVER WORK WITH WERNER VON WESS! HE UNDERSTANDS ONE THING... FORCE! I'VE GOT TO WRECK THIS BOAT!
WORKING FAST, REMEMBERING MY BRIEFING AT THE NEW LONDON BASE WHERE THE ADMIRAL HAD SHOWN ME THE WORKINGS OF A NUCLEAR SUB, I USED MY STEEL FIST ONCE MORE... SMASHING ELECTRICAL CONDUITS... AND ESSENTIAL STEAM RETURN LINES... THE SUB WAS DOOMED!
WE'LL ALL DIE IN THIS OVERSIZED STEEL COFFIN!
NO, WE WON'T! GET INTO THAT POLARIS LAUNCHER RIGHT NOW!
SMASH!
CRASH!

BUT WE...
SHUT UP! I'VE GOT TO SET THE COMPRESSED AIR AND TIME CONTROLS!
WE COULD FEEL THE PRESSURE BUILDING ...I'D LOWERED THE SETTING TO FAR BELOW THE POWER NEEDED TO BLAST A POLARIS TO THE SURFACE... BUT IT GOT PRETTY STUFFY IN THERE ANYHOW...
PRESSURE'S HIGHER... HOPE WE DON'T GET CRUSHED INTO JELLY BE-FORE WE...
SSSSSSSS
I CAN'T DESCRIBE HOW IT FEELS TO GET BLASTED FROM DEEP IN THE OCEAN UP TO THE SURFACE... AND ON UP INTO COOL, CLEAN AIR...
LOOK, CAPTAIN
I'LL CONGRATULATE YOU LATER, MR. STEEL! RIGHT NOW I'VE GOT TO PIN THAT RASCAL DOWN!
HE CAN'T GET FAR, CAPTAIN!
TEN MINUTES LATER...
I'LL GO TO PRISON FOR MY PART IN HIS SCHEME, WON'T I?
I GUESS YOU WILL, LISA ...THE DANCE IS OVER AND IT'S TIME TO PAY THE PIPER!
IF WE COULD HAVE MET UNDER DIFFER-ENT CIRCUMSTANCES, LISA...
I KNOW, SARGE... DON'T GO ON...OR I'LL BAWL RIGHT HERE WITH THE WHOLE NAVY LOOK-ING ON!
END

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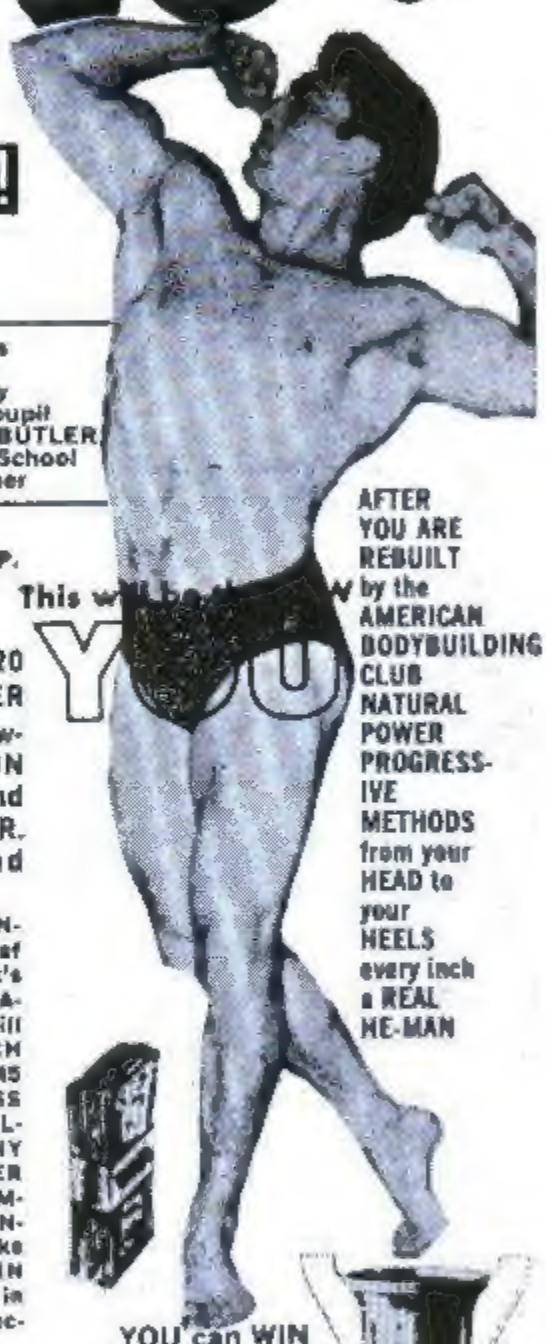

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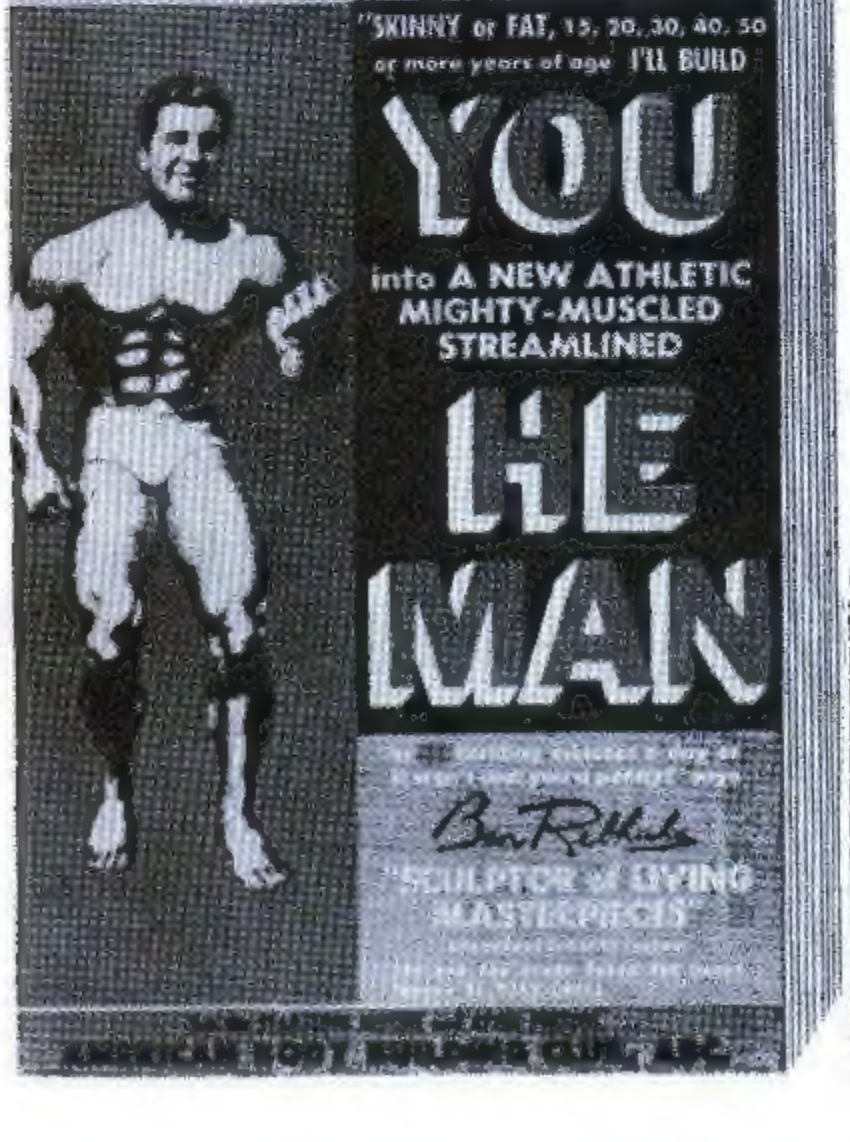
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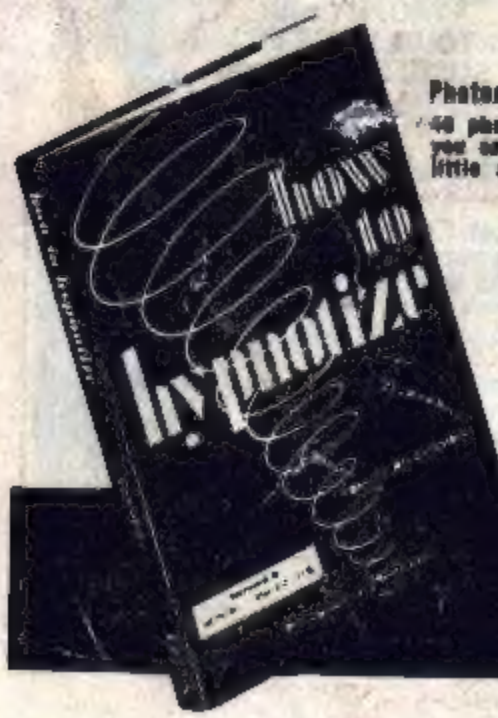

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